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Taking stock of the situation in two continents

Group of thoughtful West Ham United players watch their Cup Winners' Cup opponents Borussia Dortmund training. The West German club eliminated them from the competition. Left to right standing: Geoff Hurst, Martin Peters, Peter Brabrook, Alan Sealey, Eddie Bovington, Brian Dear, John Sissons and Ken Brown. Odd man out sitting is Bobby Moore who is reported to be anxious to leave the club. (P.A.I.)

Breaking off from a training session at Ward College in the suburbs of Buenos Aires recently are left to right: Luis Artime (first capped in 1963), Coach Zubeldia, assistant coach Faldutti and Enrique Jesus Roldan, Independiente inside-right. (A.P.)

THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE

World Soccer

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Editor
JACK ROLLIN

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FRONT COVER PICTURE

Bobby Charlton leads out the Manchester United team followed by goalkeeper Pat Dunne. The Old Trafford club failed in their bid to reach the European Cup Final. (M.P.1.)

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MAY WORLD SOCCER 1966
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The World's Greatest Full-back?

Player Portrait: GIACINTO FACCHETTI

THE road to Treviglio is straight, but slow. Too much traffic, too many "bambinos" playing on the edges. Some of them wave as Alfa Romeo number 88751.BG flashes by, driven by a tall, hard-faced man crouched uncomfortably over the steering wheel. He smiles, and waves back, sometimes, where the traffic is heaviest, stops and signs his name on grubby scraps of paper. He is Giacinto Facchetti, employee of Internazionale Football Club, and probably the finest left-back in the world.

Giacinto is 24. He was born here in Treviglio, near Bergamo, and some 35 miles from Milan, on July 18, 1942. Everyone knows him, or wants to: he lunches with the mayor, the local editor, the parish priest. Even the church can benefit from calcio, it seems. "The father is as keen a soccer fan as old Don Camillo himself," says Facchetti, with just a trace of irony.

But he doesn't want to move into Milan. "I hate the big cities. They are hard, impersonal places, with cold walls and unfriendly stares. Inter offered to fix me up with a flat, when I got into the first team. But I said no. I preferred to live at home, with the family."

The Facchetti household is big by British standards, average by Italian ones. He has three sisters, Francia, Giovanna and Pinuccia, and an elder brother, Luigi. His mother is dead. His father, a stern but conscientious man, has brought up the family. He watches all Inter's home matches, and is at once his son's harshest critic and warmest fan.

He began, really, as an athlete. His speed off the mark and his long-striding legs made him a more than useful sprinter. "I've done 8.8 secs. for the 80 metres," says Facchetti, proudly. "Not bad, considering I was always falling over my own feet."

Soccer came second, with little local team CS Trevigliese and their wobbly goalposts. Facchetti was always a full-back, clumsy in his teens, but a player who worked harder than most at ball control.

Inter signed him for their junior team in 1960, and his arrival created a stir among the club officials. He was too big, too tall, already over 6 ft.; he had gangling limbs, and noticeably large feet. "What?" said President Angelo Moratti, without meaning to be unkind: "are we going to play a beanstalk in the League team?"

by Roger Macdonald

"I remember the first days," said Facchetti. "No one took me seriously, though I thought I played quite well in the junior games. Then, one day, Signor Herrera took me to one side ... I was afraid it might be to send me home.

"But he said: 'I'm a good judge of talent, and I think you've got what it takes to become a great full-back. Follow my orders, and you'll soon be laughing at your detractors.' "

And he was, or rather, the detractors stopped detracting, and became his supporters: for there is nothing more glamorous than a full-back who always looks as if he may score a goal.

Facchetti started this in friendlies and junior games, by moving up with the attack. He had the speed and the physique — one notoriously rough "sweeper-up" who tried to knock him off the ball was out for a month with a cracked rib. Above all, he had the control, and the flair for finding a gap in the catenaccio wall —widened dramatically by the sheer momentum of his mighty frame.

Facchetti has none of the twinkling tricks of Mazzola, but an elusive shuffle, coupled with a sudden acceleration which can leave most players pursuing breathlessly. One almost feels sorry for the average Italian defender: faced with Facchetti, he can scarcely put the boot in, or hope to out-run him, or hope he'll go back to his own penalty area. And to be beaten by a full-back is humiliating in the extreme.

In the League the flexible Facchetti plan took time to succeed. Even Inter, put through their tactical paces with painstaking thoroughness by Herrera, took time to master a covering system for a full-back who could be anywhere.

When Facchetti came into the team against Mantua, on February 13, 1961, he was not a success. Neither fish nor fowl, his shooting was erratic and his covering uncertain.

"I was rightly dropped," he recalls. "Herrera decided to make me concentrate on being a defender until I had adjusted my style to first-team soccer. It seemed to work, for I returned to play in over 20 games. But I didn't score a goal."

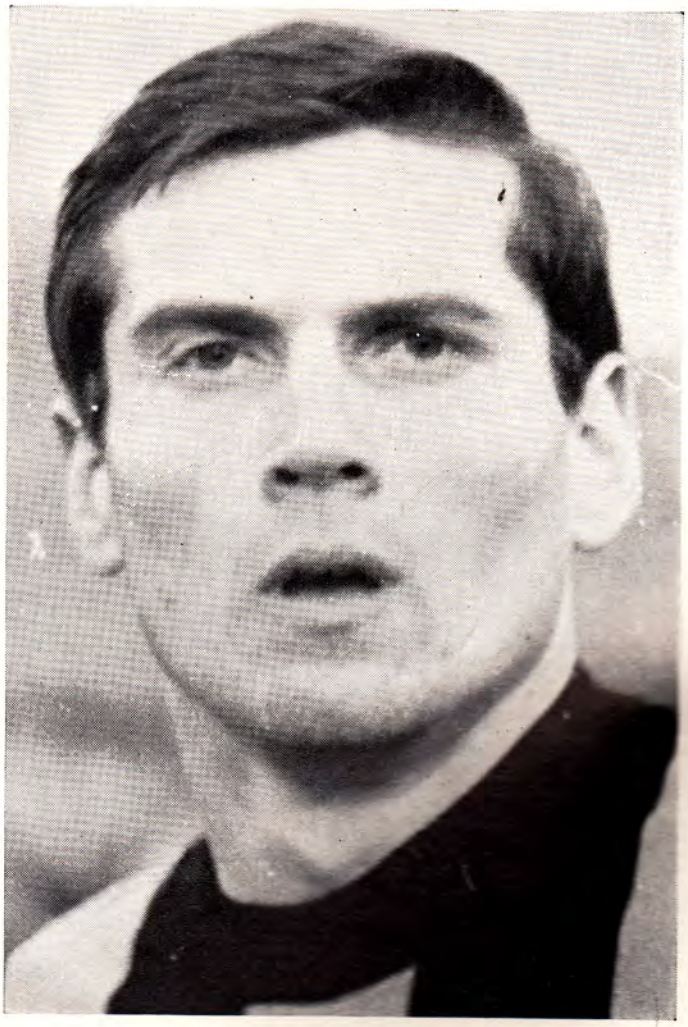
The goals came later—20 in four seasons of League football, and some vital ones in the European Cup. The most memorable put Liverpool out in the 1965 semi-final, when Inter counter-attacked with close passing, staccato style, leaving Facchetti clear to hit a lethal shot past the helpless Lawrence from 20 yards.

This moment alone may have helped to put Facchetti second to Eusebio in the poll to decide the European Footballer of the Year. But it has also put the pressure on him to keep on scoring—as though it were not a luxury, but an essential duty.

"There is a danger of letting this go too far," admits Helenio Herrera. "Facchetti is a great player, a world class player, because he can improvise. Inter are not a defensive team, they adopt what you call the 'whirl', with players switching roles suddenly to confuse the opposition.

"But Facchetti is not worth, say, £200,000, because he can 'whirl'. First and foremost he must be a formidable defender, stop goals, rather than score them. The pressure on him to attack is rather too much for his own good."

Giacinto Facchetti, a great student of tactical football, realises this danger. "I am taking fewer and fewer risks," he said. "Percentage-wise, the attacks I make are less valuable than those I break up. Football is so tight, defensively, in Italy, that lose a goal and you're finished."



Giacinto Facchetti the Inter-Milan full-back who is the subject of the player portrait this month. (Metelmann 2.)

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Cup Games Near The Last Lap

REPORT FROM SOUTH AMERICA

By Gordon Jeffery

AN untidy month with players and clubs, particularly in Argentina, trying to face several ways at once. A start to the new Argentinian League season—with the First Division still increasing in size; considerable progress in the South American Champion Clubs cup competition—currently at the quarter-final (on a small league basis) stage; and all manner of rumblings of discontent, and no doubt deceptively inspired rumours of same, about the World Cup preparations of countries as Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil.

From the latter the story is that the football authorities are worried by the frivolous approach of some players to their initiation period of dedication in some mountain fastness. Players, it is reported, hied off to a country rodeo and some volunteered to have a go at riding the bulls—with Little Bird Garrincha the most successful of the volunteers. Indeed the only other player reported to stay mounted was Jairzinho—so a test of this sort is not likely to determine which of the two will be most seen wearing the Number Seven shirt in England next July!

Tussles

But away from the chit-chat of doubtful worth and to continue the story of the 7th Copa Libertadores de America from about where we left off last month. The private tussles between national champions and runners-up continued with, as I had noted from the earliest results, the runners-up generally faring better than the champions. I don't know what this proves exactly except that, at the time that they win the club championship of either South America or Europe, it must always be problematic whether that club are even the best in their own country! There is, for example, an odd twist in Europe this year with, as I write, the last three survivors in this season's Cup-Winners' Cup competition, Borussia Dortmund, Liverpool and Celtic, all looking well-set to emerge as their national champions, whereas in the senior competition, the Champions Cup, only Inter of the last four appear likely to be national champions.

And, of course, in South America, the ultimate winner of the 7th Champions Club competition may well be Independiente, for the third year in succession, although they ended last season only six places from the bottom of the Argentinian First Division! Independiente's chance to retain their continental championship comes because they enter the lists only at the semi-final stage but this year that means they will have to play more matches than last year to win since the quarter-finals are being played in groups and not simply as two-legged ties.

The champions versus runners-up issue in the first stages of the competition had little more than academic interest in some cases since the *two* leading clubs from each group went into the semi-finals and in the larger two groups this meant the old firms of Nacional and Penarol of Uruguay, and River Plate and Boca Juniors of Argentina. In the smaller third group, however, the Chilean pair, the two Universidads, were split by Guarani and Olimpia of Paraguay.

In Group A, Nacional and Penarol, as reported last month, both faltered in the rarefied atmosphere of La Paz and Cochabama in Bolivia when they lost to Municipal and Jorge Wilsterman but, apart from each winning at home and losing away when playing against each other, neither were again beaten. Each completed their programme of ten matches for a total of 15 points but Nacional, the runners-up in the Uruguayan championship, had a better goal-average (22 for to 10 against) than the national champions Penarol (19-10).

The remaining four clubs in the group each then had a match to play but with no hope of catching the leaders—Jorge Wilsterman, the Bolivian runners-up, had eight points, and Municipal, the Bolivian champions, had seven points and behind them again came Emelec, Ecuadorian champions, and Nueve Octobre the Ecuadorian runners-up. In two of the three national "pairs", in other words, the runners-up headed the champions.

Last month's commentary included typical line-ups for five of the six clubs in that group—to complete the picture here was Emelec's for their match against Nacional played at Guayaquil, Ecuador. In goal Mageregger; Romanelly and Mariduena backs; Landazuri, Mina and Calonga halves; Balseca, Bolanos, Merizalde, Pulido and Lencina forwards. Felipe Mina, Jorge Bolanos, Bolivar Merizalde and Enrique Raymondi, who came on after half-an-hour's play for Balseca, all played for Ecuador in their 1965 World Cup qualifying matches.

Runners-up

In Group B, the two to qualify for the semi-final groups were both from the Argentine—and again it was the national runners-up, River Plate, who took top place with the champions, Boca, in the rear. River in fact after nine matches were unbeaten and the only point dropped was in their away match against Universitario de Lima in Peru when the two sides shared two goals.

Boca on the other hand, although hundred per cent at home, lost three of their away matches—including, by the odd goal in three, the one against River. Despite these lapses Boca ensured their place in their ninth match when they were at home to Universitario. The positions before this match were that River lead with 17 points from nine matches, Boca had ten from eight matches, Universitario nine from eight matches, Deportivo Italia eight from nine matches, Lara four from nine matches, Alianza four from nine matches. Line-ups for Boca's decisive match were:

Boca Juniors: Minoian; Simeone, Marzolini; Sacchi, Silvero, Silveira; Aimonetti, Angel Rojas, Alfredo Rojas, Menendez and Zarich.

Universitario de Lima: Agurto; Fuentes, Jose Fernandez; Chumpitaz, Arguedas, Cruzado; Calatayud, Rios (Challe), Guzman, Zavala and Uribe.

Jose Fernandez, Hector Chumpitaz, Luis Cruzado, Victor Calatayud, Angel Uribe and Luis Zavala all played in Peru's World Cup qualifying competition matches. It was left-back Marzolini who opened the scoring for Boca Juniors after 27 minutes and nine minutes later Angel Rojas increased their lead. That, however, was the end of the scoring and the Peruvians put up much more of a fight than the locals had expected with Zavala and Calatayud in particular impressing. It was unfortunate that the latter blotted his copybook towards the end of the match when he tussled with Boca's left-winger Zarich and was sent off with four minutes left for play.

Boca's win lifted them to 12 points and certain semi-final qualification. Since then Deportivo Italia have completed their fixtures with a one-nil win over Lara to finish with ten points. River and Boca were due to meet again and Universitario to play Alianza but these results are tardy in coming across—there is only a statistical interest in them, of course, whereas the first matches in the semi-finals have already been played. What was again curious was that apart from the Argentinian runners-up River finishing well ahead of their champions Boca, Deportivo Italia the Venezuelan runners-up gained ten points compared with the four of their national champions, Lara, and that whatever happened in their final match, Universitario Lima were certain to finish in front of their national champions Alianza!

More gaps

I mentioned Universitario's line-up against Boca and readers might be interested in noting Alianza's—as it was for the match in Caracas for the match against Lara—to fill in a few more gaps in their Peruvian records. The team was Bazan; Barreto, Lavalle; Grimaldo, de la Vega, Guzman; Martinez, Zegarra, Leon, Flores and Valle. The 'keeper Rodolfo Bazan, Manuel Grimaldo, Rodolfo Guzman, Victor Zegarra and Pedro Leon were 1965 Peruvian international players.

There is little resemblance between the line-ups of Deportivo

Italia and Lara and the national Venezuelan teams because in this small and, in a football sense, young country the leading clubs employ a majority of foreign players—including, for example, such as Didi!

Winners

There were only four clubs in Group C of the Champions Cup. Universidad de Chile duly retained their Chilean national championship—they were certain winners before the end of the season but the Champions competition had started before the season actually finished—Universidad de Chile, still in winning form in the final League match, beat Rangers by the odd goal in five; Universidad Catolica, the runners-up, were even more emphatically in form as they trounced O'Higgins by five goals to two. Universidad de Chile gained 57 points, six more than second-placed Catolica who were themselves seven points ahead of Rangers who finished third. Thus the two Universidads were the Chilean entries in Group C and competing with them were the top two from Paraguay — the champions Olimpia and the runners-up Guarani. The group started late but with their smaller list of matches were the first to complete their fixtures with the Chilean clubs sharing points in two drawn matches but, overall, Catolica heading the table with seven points. The Paraguayan pair, Guarani and Olimpia, followed with six points apiece, and Universidad de Chile came last with five points.

In the final group match at Asuncion, Guarani beat Olimpia by two goals to nil—their earlier meeting when Olimpia were the hosts had ended nearly a month before in a three-all draw.

The big day in Paraguay came late in the tournament when, in Asuncion, Olimpia beat Universidad de Chile by two goals to nil, and Guarani beat Universidad Catolica by three goals to one. Line-ups:

Olimpia: Nery; Molinas, Gaona; Benitez, Barreiro, Reyes; Rodriguez, Apodaca, Torres, Gonzalez and Garcete.

Universidad de Chile: Neff; Eyzaguirre, Donoso; Rodriguez, Musso, Contreras; Araya, Marcos, Olivares, Hodge and Oleniak.

Guarani: Alonso; Rojas, Medina; Insfran, Bobadilla, Ivaldi; Arambulo, Salinas, Munoz, Patino and Gonzalez.

Universidad Catolica: Vallejos; Barrientos, Villarroel; Laube, Adriazola, Barrales; Betta, Prieto, Gallardo, Tobar and Ibanez.

Boca Juniors and Argentinian international left-back Marzolini who figured in the vital Champions' Cup match against Universitario the Peruvian club. (M.P.I.)

Guarani and Olimpia finished on level points and Guarani won the play-off 2-1. However, Universidad de Chile, who finished bottom, are also figuring in the quarter-finals!

Quite a batch of last season's Paraguayan international players in the Olimpia and Guarani teams — Sergio Rojas, Antonio Insfran, Medina, Bobadilla, Juan Graciano Gonzalez of Guarani, Rodriguez and Apodaca of Olimpia amongst them.

In the midst of this inter-club activity the 1966 Argentinian League season kicked off again with most clubs parading their new signings. Independiente, for example, had Roldan and Artime in their forward line against San Lorenzo—these two, and Santoro and de la Mata of Independiente and Calica and Chaldu of San Lorenzo, coming away from their national team training retreat for the League match. It was, incidentally, de la Mata who, from a corner taken by new left-winger, Trabini, scored the only goal of the match. Goals were, as usual, fairly scarce but they were no goalless opening matches and one in which seven goals were scored - Huracan beating Argentinos Juniors by the odd goal of the seven!

Whilst the national team players get away for the League matches there has been an embargo on the Boca Juniors, River Plate and Independiente players in the national squad from playing in the Champions Cup quarter-finals—and it is the players who are complaining about this! One solution would be for the Argentinian authorities to recompense them for the cash they are losing for not being allowed to play in the semi-finals, but until that solution is accepted the players, 12 of them, are reported to be "on strike". Not the happiest of ways to prepare for the World Cup matches!

Quarter-finals

The results to hand in the quarter-finals have Universidad Catolica in one section home winners over both Penarol and Nacional (same score of one-nil in each match) and Penarol home winners against Nacional. And in the second section, Boca Juniors have lost (0-2) when visiting Independiente but won (3-1) against Guarani in Paraguay. And missing from the Boca team in that latter match, for which the line-ups have just come in, were Boca's national team players Rattin, Pianetti and Gonzalez, all of whom played in the opening League matches without restraint. Independiente drew 1-1 with River Plate.

PRO FOOTBALL IN U.S.A.

ACCORDING to information in a recent F.I.F.A. bulletin, it is hoped that the USSFA Convention to be held on June 25/26 this year in San Francisco will ratify the proposal about the formation of a professional league in the United States.

Professional clubs may then be formed and professional football competitions may be organised by the USSFA probably beginning with the season 1967–68.

It has been pointed out that top class professional football would certainly encourage the interest of young football players of school, college and amateur level and with the funds which could be made available through professional football, interest in the game at these levels could be further developed.

Finalists in Umbro Kit

WHOEVER wins this season's F.A. Cup competition, one thing is certain — they will be wearing Umbro kit.

Umbro—Humphrey Bros. Ltd., of Wilmslow, Cheshire—supplied kit to all four semi-finalists, namely Manchester United, Chelsea, Sheffield Wednesday and Everton. They also provided kit for both the Scottish Cup finalists Rangers and Celtic, and the Irish Cup finalists Glentoran and Linfield.

AROUND THE WORLD STORIES

New chief has first hand look

SWITZERLAND — CZECHOSLOVAKIA — BELGIUM HUNGARY — AUSTRIA — FRANCE

SWITZERLAND

THE two highest ranking teams in the First Division were kept apart in the semi-finals, League leaders FC Zurich meeting Division II Cantonal and Servette paired with FC Basle. Servette convincingly beat Basle 3-1 and, though the Zurichois made hard work of the lowly Neuchatel club, they struggled through to the "dream" final 4-2. In the Easter Monday final at Wankdorf, Zurich were watched by their new boss, Ladislav Kubala, who will take over next season, and the capacity 54,000 crowd saw Zurich win the Cup for the first time, 2-0. The SFV Cup Roll of Honour now reads: Grasshoppers (Zurich) 13 wins, Lausanne and Chaux-de-Fonds six successes each and Young Boys (Berne) four. This was Zurich's first appearance in the final, as well as their first success!

With the F.A. Cup safely locked away, FC Zurich are now big favourites to complete the double, for with only eight games to be played, FCZ lead the field by five points and have been beaten only once all season. Closest challengers are Servette from Geneva (with a game in hand) and Lausanne, who trail by eight points, but it seems unlikely that the efficient 4-3-3 squad of Louis Maurer will collapse now. At the wrong end of the table, Urania (Geneva) are booked for a quick return to National-Liga B, while Young Fellows F.C. (the third Zurich club) promoted with Urania last season, seem likely to survive. In the Liga B two former First Division regulars are heading for Liga C and near-extinction, Chiasso and Cup semi-finalists Cantonal.

Heading the top league scorers is Rene Blattler, international centre-forward of the Grasshoppers Club (Zurich). With 20 goals, he leads from the Dutchman Theunissen (Young Boys) with 17, and the Lausanne pair, Kerkhoffs (also Dutch) and Hosp, with 14 and 13. Blattler is the man behind the Grasshoppers' revival but has little support, and if the Swiss game were more commercial it would be doubtful if Grasshoppers could keep him. In the 'thirties Grasshoppers were *the* team with six "doubles" to their credit. Only three other clubs have ever achieved Zurich's current aim, the last being in 1957–58.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

SPARTA Prague's 0-5 humiliation against Partizan in the European Cup, has sparked off a crisis which could rob them of a second successive championship. Two key men, centre-forward Mraz and left-back Taborsky, had their call-up for National Service postponed until their Europa Cup elimination and after "Belgrade" they were lost to Dukla. Sparta topped the league at the winter-break but have since picked up only three points in five games, to allow newly promoted Slavia SK to move into a two-point lead.

Meanwhile Mraz made his début for Dukla against Slovan Teplice and the Army men began scoring goals again. Their 3-0 win away suggests they will soon move up the table — too late for former coach Jaroslav Vejvoda, sacked in the autumn and soon to join the Egyptian Army club in Cairo.

Slavia (formerly Dynamo Prague) are now favourites for the title, and taking around 10,000 supporters with them for away matches. In the first round of the 1966 Mitropa Cup they accounted for MTK, losing 1-0 in Budapest but winning the second leg 2-0. Easter Sunday brought the long-awaited Slavia–Sparta derby and a capacity 46,000 gate. This was the 164th "clash" since 1896, but with Sparta fielding six reserves, and Slavia red-hot favourites, the result was a 1-1 draw. The next big game is Sparta v. Dukla, with speculation centred on the Mraz controversy. Will Dukla have the cheek to field Mraz against his own team? And if they do, will Sparta fans boycott the game as they have threatened?

In Bratislava, the Eastern "capital" Slovnaft (formerly Red Star or Rude Hvezda) have again been rechristened. Their new name, Internacional . . . Inter . . . has brought a change of luck, and with a 2-0 win over Dukla in their first outing, Inter now lie handily in third place, five points behind Slavia.

Former international 'keeper, Vilijem Schroiff, has finally left Slovan Bratislava to rejoin his Chile-colleague, Adolf Scherer. Their new club is Lokomotive Kosice, currently last in Division I and likely to stay there (until May when they will be relegated) unless a miracle occurs.

BELGIUM

NATIONAL team-chief, Arthur Ceuleers, has resigned following wide criticism of his methods and liking for Anderlecht stars, which were sparked off by Belgium's unexpected exit from the World Cup. Next season he will return to league football as boss of FC Liege, with whom he is acting as "adviser" for the rest of the season. Ceuleers' successor with the Red Devils has already been decided — Raymond Goethals, who has led VV Saint-Trond from anonymity to promotion, and a place amongst Belgium's top three clubs. A former goalkeeper for Daring F.C. (Brussels), Goethals took seven years working the Saint-Trond miracle, though he's unlikely to stay that long working for the F.A.

With three games left, RSC Anderlecht are champions once more with a ten-point lead over their three major rivals, Standard (Liege), St. Trond and the Antwerp club, Beerschot. This latest success boosts their total to 12 championships, all since 1947, and an all-Belgium best. To mark the event they will stage a Paris-type tournament in June with neighbours Daring, Hamburg SV and the Brazilian club Corinthians.

For the 1966–67 season, the Belgian League has announced three major changes. Televising international matches will be barred — even for sell-outs — and instead nine specially chosen League matches will be staged in mid-week and screened "live".

In League matches, Belgium follows the new mood on the Continent, and will allow two substitutions to be made in any domestic matches. The changes may be made for any reason, at any time—limited to the goalkeeper and one other player. Finally the third change will allow the top clubs to field three foreign players in any game, instead of two as previously. This change was prompted by the clubs after the Division II teams had rejected an F.A. proposal that players sought by more senior clubs should not be prevented and that these transfers should be at F.A. controlled fees!

Czechoslovakian inside-forward Mraz (right) has a shot at goal during a match against Racing Buenos Aires. Mraz is now serving a stint of National Service at home. (Keystone 2.)

AUSTRIA

THE last of the great attacking centre-halves, Ernst Ocwirk, left Austria after the 1954 World Cup for Italy and the Genoa club Sampdoria. Retiring in Italy he remained as coach of Samp, before returning to Vienna, apparently disillusioned about the defensive trends in Italy. Appointed coach of his old club, FK Austria, Ocwirk was expected to lead a revival of the old methods, but instead he paved the way for the "modern" game in Austria. Opening the campaign with eight games without defeat, FK Austria set the new pattern and, promptly followed by most of the rivals, have made goals very scarce.

In the final run-in to the title, Admira (Vienna) 30 points, lead by a point, with three other Viennese clubs close behind: SC Rapid and FK Austria 29 each and Wiener SK 24. Interest and attendances are falling below the danger level, however, for while the clubs want points, the public wants goals — and isn't getting them. Goalless draw champions are Wacker (Innsbruck) with Internationals goalkeeper Fraydl and inside-forward Senekowitsch the stars. Last week-end three of the seven First Division games ended 0-0 and two others resulted in 1-0 wins, so that nine of the 14 teams engaged failed to score. The critics are now demanding that the OFB intervenes to rule that no points are awarded for 0-0 draws — an unusual remedy but one that is unlikely to be accepted.

Linz ASK, champions last season, and the first provincial club ever to take the title away from Vienna, are still in danger of collapse. Holding a respectable position in mid-table, their crisis is financial, for since their president resigned last year, the other directors have opted out. The club is now being run from week-to-week by a committee of supporters but, like most teams in Austria, cannot exist on gate-receipts alone. They must find a wealthy president ... or collapse.

HUNGARY

THE F.A. plan to restrict the clubs from changing their managers too often came to nothing and the almost wholesale switch-around was effected. The big clubs now line up as follows: Ferencvaros (Sandor Tatrai), Honved (Joszef Boszik), Tatabanya (Nandor Hidegkuti), Ujpest Dozsa (Sandor Balogh) and Gyor (Ferenc Szusza). Champions Vasas Budapest naturally retain Lajos Csordas, their former international inside-forward. Former Partizan and Standard-Liege coach, Dr. Geza Kalocsai, re-enters the lists with Third Division Szeged VSE.

In the early rounds of the new championship, overshadowed by Lajos Baroti's World Cup preparations, the pacemakers are Honved, who opened with four straight wins and now lead with nine points from five games, from Ferencvaros and Vasas, who both have eight.

Hungarian fans appear to have been badly shaken by the poor showing of their big clubs in the international tournaments. Optimistic after Ferencvaros's winning of the Fairs Cup last summer, in which they beat Manchester United and Juventus (away), they were shattered by the elimination of FTC, Honved and Ujpest by Inter, Liverpool and Leeds. In particular the difference between Ferencvaros and Inter was clear to the capacity 90,000 crowd who saw the 1-1 draw at the Nepstadion, for Inter clearly controlled the game ... at half pace. The result was a very poor response for the opening day of the league programme when less than 60,000 turned out to see seven First Division games!

Although the Hungarians have not followed Russia's lead by withdrawing their World Cup 22 from League matches, Lajos Baroti's plans are given clear preference over the club's wishes. Training together four days a week, Baroti's men began their final approach with a visit to Switzerland and a 6-1 win over Grasshoppers in Zurich. A few days later, Ferenc Sipos (70 caps) and Ferenc Nogradi (both now with Honved) were temporarily suspended from the World Cup squad for neglecting to observe Baroti's 10.30 p.m. curfew.

FRANCE

THE often suspended and finally rejected blueprint for a 100,000 capacity stadium in Paris, came up again recently in the form of a compromise from the office of the Minister for Sport and Youth. The idea now is to enlarge the 40,000 capacity Parc des Princes — home of Racing. Critics of the super-stadium plan claim it would be a white elephant, and point to Racing's poor showing of late. With Racing in Division II and neighbours Stade Francais struggling to avoid joining them. Parisien fans were said to have no interest in the game. This illusion was shattered when the Reims-Rennes (Cup-holders) eighth-final was staged at the Parc and 40,000 paid to see a drawn game. Ten days later another 40,000 watched the replay, and the following Sunday a mere 799 saw Racing lose 1-0 at home to bottom of Division II FC Marignane!

Reims, always popular in Paris, beat Rennes to reach the quarter-finals but, tired by their marathon battle, went out in extra time after leading 1-0 against SCO Angers, Raymond Kopa's first club, by 3-1. Now, however, former Reims star, Robert Jonquet, and his men can concentrate on regaining their First Division place, lost three years ago. With eight games left, Reims have one foot in the top class, for pursued by Marseille, they are four clear points ahead of their other challengers, Toulon and unknown Bastia.

Semi-finalists in the FF Cup are Toulouse, Angers, Strasbourg and FC Nantes, the last-named favoured to add a double to the championship they won last season. They can afford to relax their league bid with a clear eight-point lead over Valenciennes, Bordeaux and St. Etienne. For inside-left Philippe Gondet there will be no relief, however, if he is to overhaul the goal-scoring record of 35 goals for Marseille, set by the Swede Gunnar Andersson. With two more in the recent 3-0 win over Red Star, Gondet has 28 league goals, and needs another eight from eight league games.

by JOHN GOODBODY

DENMARK: They Must Turn Pro!

AFTER Sweden, Denmark; overriding the interest in the beginning of the new season in Denmark is the vital and unavoidable issue of professionalism. As Eric Batty so wisely said in a *Soccer Star* article the poaching of players by foreign clubs, particularly Scotland, has so worried the Danes that "If the Scots had to pay transfer fees the drain would be slowed and almost stopped and the answer obviously is to bring in a form of professionalism however limited it may be".

As I discovered on a recent visit to Denmark, the loss of their leading players is seriously affecting not only the standard of the game but also the success of the individual clubs and the National XI. Wherever I went in this wonderfully hospitable country I heard the same words at the football clubs: "Professionalism must come soon in some form."

What happened to Sweden during the 'fifties when star player after star player went to the Eldorado of Italy is now happening in Denmark, except the Eldorado is now often Scotland or Holland. It was largely the energy and vision of George Raynor that enabled Sweden to maintain their position as one of Europe's leading football nations. The exodus after each World Cup or Olympic tournament was almost sacrilegious. Liedholm, Selmosson, Skoglund, Gren, Nordahl, Hamrin—the list is seemingly endless.

Bottom place in the World Cup Qualifying Group—so deservedly won by Russia—has finally convinced many football administrators in Denmark that if the country is to progress then it must have some sort of professionalism, as there now is in Sweden.

This feeling was expressed to me by Svend Nielsen, the chairman of Ikast Football Club, a leading Second Division side.

He told me: "What has happened to Denmark in recent years has been a shame but it is not a tragedy. One cannot blame anyone but it is a great pity that many of our outstanding players go abroad. Professionalism has to come."

What form this will take is debatable. Most clubs in Denmark have small crowds and if professionalism does arrive it will have to be on some sort of semi-professionalism with players having jobs outside the game but receiving some money from the clubs. This would help to guard against the attractions of foreign offers as is now the case in Sweden.

The loss of many of Denmark's outstanding players began in fact in 1948 when the great John Hansen and his brother Karl Aage went to Italy accompanied by the brilliant Carl Praest. Denmark had finished third in the London Olympic Games.

However, it has been in the last few years that the gravity of the position has become acute. Altogether 45 players have been signed by foreign clubs. Of these Svend Nielsen calculates that 30 have gone abroad in the last two years. Scotland has been the chief buyer in this period.

Unquestionably Denmark's fine performances in the many international tournaments have made foreign clubs realise that not only are the players easy to get but also that Denmark despite its small—4½ million population—can produce some extremely talented players. Chief of Denmark's exploits have been their semi-final place in the European Nations Cup and their splendid showing in the 1960 Olympics in Rome.

OLE MADSEN. (Hanney 2.)

Those of us who saw Denmark battle so well in the Olympic tournament against teams like Yugoslavia and Hungary will remember them for their precision, determination and good-sportsmanship.

In an excellent semi-final, Denmark beat a Hungarian side that included Albert and Gorocs 2-0—unquestionably the best match of the Games. In the final Denmark lost to Yugoslavia who, although with only 10 men for much of the game, had players like the pantherine Vidinic, "Atom-foot" Kostic, Durkovic and Galic available.

The celebrities of that side were immediately snapped up by the ravenous Italian clubs. Harald Nielsen, the graceful centre-forward, went to Bologna. Tireless Flemming Nielsen was bought by Atalanta and Joern Soerensen, the left-winger, went to Metz (France) into the bargain.

Mutilated as Denmark have been in the last few years they are still producing some excellent players. The current star is right-winger Kaj Poulsen, a 22-year-old schoolmaster who is very fast and possesses immaculate control. He plays for the national team and scored one of the goals against Wales in the World Cup.

The goalkeeper in the national team—Max Moller who is with Horsens Club—and the two half-backs Karl Hansen and Jens Jorgen Hansen are also highly thought of.

Nevertheless the depriving of players like Fritsen and Madsen, who are in Holland, has severely tried the patience of the national coach, Poul Petersen. Ole Madsen in particular has been a great loss for his leadership of the Sparta, Rotterdam attack has been a revelation for the Dutch club.

As one has seen so often in England and also in other European countries, there is opposition to providing players for the National XI for training and "get-togethers". Nevertheless, the Danish F.A. which was founded appointed an assistant to Petersen while I was in the country. Petersen may be remembered by some WORLD SOCCER readers as the left-back in the Rest of Europe side that met Great Britain in 1947 and was thrashed 6-1.

No full-time

The Danish F.A. have intended that the national side should have more time for training together ... which one seems to have heard about somewhere before!

Despite their lack of full-time training the Danish clubs insist and get regular evening training sessions. Most of the clubs train three nights a week—usually Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday—frequently under floodlights.

Although there is virtually no school football, youth football is taken seriously and encouraged—for boys join clubs, training during the week and playing matches at the week-end.

The European competitions have given the clubs extra incentive to win the League and the Cup—although the latter tournament lacks any great appeal. The big teams like Copenhagen B.K.—one of the oldest sports clubs in Europe, being founded in 1876, Aarhus, Odense and Esjberg, have realised that if they are to progress they must adopt professional attitudes if not professional status.

Final

The final words on Danish football are perhaps these from Ferenc Puskas, who played for Real Madrid against Odense in the 1961–62 European Cup, after the away leg which Real won, not without difficulty 3-0: "If I were an amateur, I wouldn't run around as much as these Danish players"!

Road To Wembley

by ERIC BATTY

WHEN Helmut Schon took over as Bundes-coach from Sepp Herberger three years ago he realised only too well that he was in for a hard time. Herberger, in charge and absolutely unchallenged for 27 years, was regarded as a master by players, press and public alike. Whoever followed him would inevitably be compared with the old fox, and found wanting, but in addition to this certain handicap, Herr Schon has had to face other difficulties —most of them revolving around his attack.

When Schon took over he was virtually unknown abroad and even within the German game, little more than a pale figure always standing in Herberger's shadow. As a player he had won 16 caps while with Dresdner SC (now in East Germany) and after a lengthy period as director of coaching to the Saar Association, was appointed assistant to Herberger in 1957. From there he stepped up to take full charge when Herberger retired, and since then he has steadily improved his position. To the critics he is perhaps not the "ideal" but there seems little doubt that he has won over the players to his side. The big test will come in July, when Germany must reach the quarter-finals at least, if he is to stay in command.

At about the time that Schon linked with Herberger, the top German players began to drift towards Southern Europe where earnings with the top clubs of Spain, France, and particularly Italy, were far above those which could be legitimately earned in Germany. As the stream of players, particularly forwards, moving to Italy began to swell, the Bundesliga came into being and allowed by the rules to engage two foreigners, many clubs took the easy way out. As we have seen in the past from Spain, France and Italy, foreign players can raise or maintain the level of performance in club matches but it makes it more difficult to build a good international side.

Amongst the home based players in West Germany there is only one world class forward, Hamburg SV's centre-forward, Uwe Seeler, and for 18 months he has been plagued by an injury which threatens to end his career. Even now there is no certainty that he will be fit for the finals, and though Schon has given ample opportunities to every challenger there is no obvious successor anywhere in sight. For the vital game with Sweden in Stockholm, which Germany had to win to reach the finals, Seeler was only half fit but it is said persuaded Schon to let him play. Only on the morning of the match did the boss give way, and Seeler played to score the winning goal. Maybe Herr Schon will be tempted to gamble on Seeler taking Germany to the quarter-finals, though tough matches with Spain and Argentina will be no place for a suspect player no matter how good.

For the inside-forward berths and for the right-wing there are no obvious choices, and for this reason Schon drew up a heavy programme during 1965 in the hope that with ample opportunity to experiment he could produce players to fill one or two of the problem positions.

The 1st F.C. Koln inside-forward Overath who is a World Cup possible. (Metelmann.)

Early in 1965, Schon fielded an unknown front line in a "B" match with Holland and a few days later a full side against Italy in Hamburg. The result of both games was the same—a 1-1 draw—and after these matches it was clear that his hopes were in no way fulfilled. Against Italy, the German attack included three players from TSV Munchen 1860, Heiss on the right wing, Kuppers as his partner, and Rudi Brunnenmeier in the centre, but significantly the German goal was scored by centre-half Sieloff from a penalty.

Problems

For the next outing at home to Cyprus in the World Cup an experimental attack was fielded, but though Germany won easily by 5-0, Schon still had five problems up front. For the visit of the England XI—a match staged in Nurnberg—Schon opted for the 1st FC Koln trio: right-winger Thielen, and the left-wing pair Overath and Hornig. The result was miserable, a 1-0 defeat dominated by an attack which rarely moved at all, and never theatened.

For the next full international against Switzerland, both Heiss and Kuppers were recalled and their 1860 clubmate Rebele won the left-wing berth, and though Germany won 1-0 there was no improvement. Between these two games, however, an Under-23 clash with England's counterparts produced one bright player — the bustling centre-forward, Siegfried Held, then with Offenbach Kickers.

Schon's final fling in the 1964–65 campaign was a trip to Brazil with the most likely candidates he could muster. Ten days on tour no doubt helped boost morale but the matches — 0-2 against Brazil, and 0-1 against a Pernambuco XI—produced only one more problem when right-half Giessemann broke a leg in a tackle with Pelé.

The pressure was really on now, for within six weeks of the start of the new campaign West Germany had their vital date with Sweden in Stockholm. The advantage lay with Sweden, playing at home, for in the first leg Kurt Hamrin had sneaked a late equaliser to give Sweden a draw in Berlin. The choice of the Olympic Stadium in Berlin was probably a psychological blunder for the two countries had met there four times previously and the Swedes had never been beaten.

No one in any walk of life is more superstitious than the average professional footballer, and no doubt the Swedes gained a boost to their morale from playing on a lucky ground. With Hamrin's header they earned a draw, and perhaps they could have gone on to qualify had not Uwe Seeler intervened. Having survived the qualifying round, Schon had gained time and soon afterwards he was again experimenting in a hastily arranged match against Austria at Stuttgart. Fielding yet another "new" attack: Nafziger, Ulsass, Brunnenmeier, Netzer, Kramer, Schon saw his youngsters win 4-1 with inside-right Ulsass hitting a second half hat-trick. Not long after this, Austria won 3-2 against England at Wembley to make it appear that the Germans were very, very good indeed. Herr Schon, however, was unimpressed, scrapped that team and

● *Continued overleaf*

A group of members of the selected team of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea who are due to play in the World Cup Finals next July. (A.P.I.)

ROAD TO WEMBLEY

● *Continued from previous page*

continued with his experiments.

Against England at Wembley, in West Germany's first outing of World Cup Year, the attack failed once more. Horst Szymaniak, a fine player once, is now less than half the player he was before his spell in Italy, and perhaps suffering from playing each week with Tasmania 1900, a very poor side condemned to relegation. Szymaniak failed, as did the young hopeful from Bayern Munchen, Beckenbauer, at inside-right, and the only players to impress were centre-forward Held and left-winger Hornig.

The problems facing Helmut Schon were clearly demonstrated at Wembley, where the defence was adequate and goalkeeper Hans Tilkowski performed with courage and determination. In midfield there was the eight year "gulf" left with the final retirement of Fritz Walter, and here Germany need two "class" players if they are to make the 4-2-4 system work.

Up front there was nothing on the right. No determination, no power, speed or punch and not even a flicker of ability with the ball. On the left flank, Heinz Hornig impressed with several fine runs, and though England's right-back Cohen was probably relieved when Fredy Heiss substituted for Hornig, even the Koln winger was no real threat.

Hornig is orthodox, and old-fashioned in style. With speed and subtlety he makes for the flag, and from there is no alternative but the cross, high or low. In these days of packed defences wingers must move inside looking for a through pass aimed at goal, which will culminate either in a shot from the winger or a short square pass to a colleague in a shooting position. Though Hornig "looked" good, and certainly impressed the fans on a night when they had so little to shout about, Hornig is not the winger Schon needs, and he showed it a few weeks later when choosing Borussia Dortmund's Lothar Emmerich for the match with Holland in Rotterdam.

For this match Schon made several changes in defence, and up front only centre-forward Held retained a place. In goal was the German second string, Bernard of Werder Bremen, with his club colleagues, Hottges and Lorenz at full-back. The twin centre-backs, Schulz and Weber, remained but changed numbers: Schulz switching from 4 to 5 and Weber from 5 to 6. The overall effect was the same, but Beckenbauer, somewhat subdued at inside-right, was allowed to wear the number 4 shirt and still play the role which can be described as right mid-field.

Overath, back at inside-left, dropped back to play left mid-field, and the attack had a distinct new and improved air. Certainly the Dutchmen made things easier by playing to a 4-2-4 plan which led to an open game—far more open than the England–West Germany clash at Wembley, and the result was six goals. Four of the points fell to the Germans, but no one should delude himself that they will be allowed four goals in any match next July, when one will often be enough . . . but that one will have to be earned.

Against Holland the attack took on a far more realistic appearance and with the inclusion of Uwe Seeler at inside-right, and the return of Albert Brulls on the right wing, it was close to being the attack we can expect Schon to field in July. Brulls was only on loan by special arrangement from his Italian employers, Brescia, but his name has long been pencilled in amongst Schon's notes as the likely choice.

Seeler chipped in with his usual goal—a sixth minute effort which gave Germany the boost they needed, and eight minutes later Emmerich swooped from the left to grab another. One wonders why Herr Schon has overlooked the Borussia winger for so long, for clearly he is the "modern" wingman, scorning the relatively easy path to the corner flag, and always keen to go inside looking for goals. With Borussia, Emmerich has found many opportunities and he is the outstanding scorer in Germany, top of the goalscoring list for the Bundesliga with 28 goals in 27 games.

Logically, the team which played in Rotterdam forms the backbone of Schon's World Cup team, and with the inclusion of just two more class players in midfield the German team for July will be a very different proposition from the shambles we saw at Wembley. Fortunately, Schon has just the two he needs in Helmut Haller and Karl-Heinz Schnellinger who, like Brulls, are also playing in Italy.

The Italian Federation has already ascertained from their clubs when this trio will be available, and passed this information to Germany. Schnellinger (AC Milan) will be free on May 23, as will Brulls, and though Haller will be "technically" free on the same date, his club Bologna have signed a contract for a South American tour at the end of the season and will need him until June 22. If Schon accepts that and is prepared to slot Haller in without being able to have him for the regular get-togethers already planned, then the Germans could be a very formidable side.

Schnellinger, we know, is a class player, and few who saw the recent Chelsea–AC Milan match at Stamford Bridge will have been unimpressed. I made him the best player afield, and though nominally a full-back he came out, in Milan's tactical scheme to play in midfield. His rapier-like tackling, superb skill with the ball and intelligent interceptions stamped him as an ideal "link" and with tremendous energy he's built to last for 90 minutes and then some.

NO. 7: WEST GERMANY & NORTH KOREA

Similar role

Helmut Haller is another type altogether likened by Italians to Inter's Luis Suarez, and for his club Bologna, Haller fulfils a similar role. As the midfield schemer, Haller drops back from inside-left, though in Germany he always played on the right.

With the return of Brulls, Haller and Schnellinger, the "stranieri" from Italy, and the appearance of a new and fully-fit Uwe Seeler, Schon's Nationalmannschaft begins to look like a real power, and if he would forsake the 4-2-4 plan for the modern 4-3-3 with Brulls, Haller and Szymaniak in midfield; Seeler, Held and Emmerich up front, he may even emulate Sepp Herberger and sneak away with the Weltmeisterschaft!

THE qualification of North Korea came as a big surprise to me, but if I were forced to raise an eyebrow, the Australians, who went down to the men from Pyonyang were absolutely shattered. Even now, little is known about the Koreans who have kept very quiet about their plans and hopes, but despite the secrecy quite a bit is known about them.

This is not the first time that a Korean team has reached the last stages of a big series, though it is the first appearance of North Korea. In the 1948 Olympics, South Korea managed to beat Mexico before being drawn against Sweden, the ultimate winners, who thrashed them 12-0, and in 1954 the South Koreans won a place in the last 16.

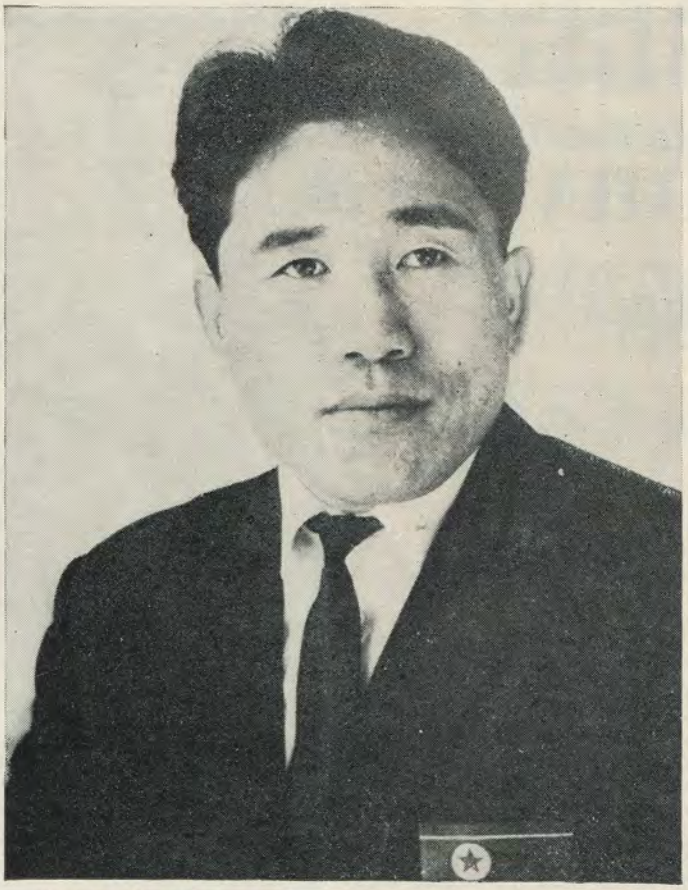
Affiliated to F.I.F.A. only since 1958, North Korea has something over quarter-million players registered with their F.A., playing for approximately 7,000 clubs at all levels. Clearly the game there is better established than many would have imagined and judging by reports of 80,000 crowds at Pyonyang, certainly popular. There is no doubt at all, that the F.A. have been preparing for a big scoop for some considerable time, for as long ago as 1963 their national championship was suspended to allow the best players to prepare as a squad. At that time, 30 players were chosen as possibles and all were drafted into the Army under the "command" of national coach, Myung Re Hyun, who was given the rank of colonel.

Each player was hand-picked, and though the average Korean is small in stature it is said that none of the 30 is less than 5 ft. 9 in. Before being chosen, each of the players had to agree not to request permission to marry until after the World Cup. Living and training together for more than three years, they will certainly be physically well prepared.

Regular

Since 1963, the squad has trained regularly, almost every day, playing one "international" match a month against Russian or Chinese teams and supplemented this programme by touring the Korean provinces for training matches with reinforced club teams.

Discipline is strict, but apparently morale is high, and tactically the Koreans are very modern. After eliminating Australia 6-1 and 3-1, coach Myung Re Hyun revealed that his men had been playing 4-3-3 for three seasons . . . and a few days later in Madrid England "experimented" with this scheme for the first time!



HANG BONG JIN. (A.P.I.)

The Australians were the first non-Asian team the Koreans had met and thus we have no concrete yard-stick by which to compare their standard with that in Europe. In the last three years, however, the Koreans have played 37 internationals and been beaten only twice, while in January, 1965, they met China in the final of the Asian Cup and won 3-0. The Chinese, of course, have not toured abroad in recent years, but in 1964 Dukla Prague took part in an "Army" international tournament in China and Josef Masopust, the European Footballer of the Year in 1962, told me later he was very impressed with the standard of play he saw in five different Chinese cities while touring there with Dukla.

Names of the Korean players will mean nothing yet, though from various reports it seems clear that two of their forwards are worth noting in advance. Right-winger Han Bong Jin, 31 years old and 51 times an international, is said to be very speedy and a Matthews-style artist with the ball.

The left-winger, Kim Seung Ol, is the sharpshooter, as the Australians will no doubt remember.

Prior to their meeting with North Korea, the Australians had been told their opponents had recently beaten Vietnam, China, Indonesia, Cambodia and Guinea, but the Australians were unimpressed. Clearly they underestimated how quickly the apparently "backward" countries have come on in the last decade, and it seems likely that the same error will be repeated in Europe.

Sessions

Before the big series, the Koreans plan a 30-match campaign across Africa, culminating with a three-week session in Albania, and at the start of the final rounds perhaps we shall be better informed. To me it seems unlikely that the unknowns will prove world-beaters; that the Koreans can come upon us as the Hungarians did in 1953, to take us by surprise and demonstrate that constructive, skilful attacking football can still be made to pay. It's unlikely but still possible, yet while I like the thought of North Korea ousting either Italy or Russia to win a place in the quarter-finals, it's more probable that they will come to demonstrate skill with the ball and be beaten—even swamped—because they lack experience against teams with the power and pace which now dominates the game in Europe.

DISCRIMINATING SOCCER FANS READ

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Versatility must have its class

by BRIAN GLANVILLE

FOOTBALL, in a strange and intimate way, is a paradigm of its age. Thus, in a time which is at once violent yet cautious, in which corporate activity flourishes at the cost of individual talent, football has become compulsively defensive, ruthlessly organised. The post-war tactical revolution may be said to have begun in Hungary, been taken a long stage further by Brazil, and to have reached a doubtful apotheosis in Italy.

It may best be summed up in a remark made to me by Vicente Feola, the team manager of Brazil: "You've got to defend in order to attack. If you don't, you're dead." Thus, 4-2-4, 4-3-3, *catenaccio*, and the various other tactical fashions which may now be briefly traced.

Counter-attacking football is nothing new; Arsenal presented it in the later 1920s, after the change in the offside law had given forward lines a brief and happy holiday. The third back game soon brought them back to reality. Wing-halves came into the middle of the field, full-backs stood out on the wingers, the inside-forwards were withdrawn to feed a three man attack.

4-2-4 was Brazil's variant, produced after their disastrous tour of Europe in 1956 convinced them they would never master the classical third back game. One wing-half was withdrawn for purely defensive purposes; a second centre-half; the other was given his head in midfield, where he worked with one of the inside-forwards. The second inside-forward acted as a double striker, with the centre-forward. Brazil's advantage, when they showed us 4-2-4 in the 1958 World Cup, was that in Didi and Zito they had two midfield men of outstanding talent. Teams who tried to copy them often found that the tactics meant nothing without the proper link-men.

4-3-3 was almost as fortuitous as 4-2-4. In the 1962 World Cup, in Chile, Pelé was injured and Brazil, losing the help he could give in midfield, used Zagalo, their tireless left-winger, in a primarily deep role. (Though he also came up to make goals.)

JAIR da COSTA. (Metelmann.)

Catenaccio, or *gioco italiano*, is in fact the old, familiar Swiss bolt defence. A sweeper up, or *battitore libero*, stands behind a line of four defenders. There are two midfield men, three strikers, though a defensive wing-half or, more commonly, the full-back whose "winger" plays in midfield, will be expected to break into attack. In this, Facchetti of Internazionale has set the pattern; one emulated by McCreadie of Chelsea and Cohen of Fulham.

Mr. Alf Ramsey, England's team manager, has studied all this and partially understood it. Where he has gone wrong is in embracing a strange heresy; that anybody can do anything. Thus, having dramatically shown, on his first England tour of 1963, how good wingers can breach a massed defence, he has decided that there is no such thing as wingers. The recent match against West Germany convinced most of us he is wrong.

Football, as I've said, is a paradigm of its age, and this is essentially an age of specialisa-

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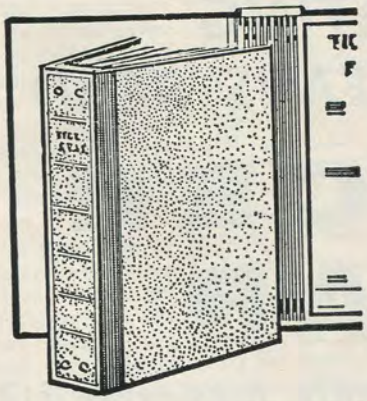

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tion. It would be remarkable indeed if football were to be any exception, and of course, it isn't. Far from producing a new breed of omnicompetent footballer, we are merely producing new types of specialist. I am not even sure that they are really new. Your attacking full-back, a specialist *par excellence*, is really no more than the "old fashioned" wing-half, reborn. One need not go too far back for an illustration. Austria, who played the "old school" game till the middle 'fifties, had an outstanding exponent in Gerhard Hanappi, who scored two goals from the position against Scotland, in 1951.

Wingers are vital because they turn the flanks of an opposing defence; and every great team of recent times has recognised that it needs at least one of them. Brazil, in the 1958 and 1962 World Cups, had the incomparable Garrincha, who virtually won them the 1958 Final, with his jaguar acceleration, his extraordinary swerve; and they would never have reached the 1962 Final without him.

Ruthless

Internazionale, twice the world club champions, whose manager, Helenio Herrera, is probably the best and most ruthless strategist in football, have long used Corso, their left-winger, as a midfield linking man. But on the right wing they have Jair, the graceful mulatto who was understudy to Garrincha in Chile; again, a classical, down-the-touchline, player, with swerve, speed and immaculate control.

In a 4-2-4 formation, the linking players must not only be specialists: there is even a sharp differentiation to be made between the two of them. One is still, by temperament, a wing-half, ready to play his part in defence; the other, an inside-forward, capable of going up to score goals. By the same token, there is no such thing as a mere "striker"; there are centre-forwards and striking inside-forwards. Herrera, in this respect, knows better than Italy. He would not dream of using the slight Sandrino Mazzola at centre-forward, where he must take such a buffeting. Italy, who *do* use him there, have never exploited this gifted player to the fullest.

Depleted

England's easy win in Madrid against a much depleted Spanish team was perhaps the worst thing that could have happened to them, for it has encouraged Mr. Ramsey to persist in his wrong thinking. Playing away, against a team which will come out and attack you, it is possible to mass your defence and catch them by surprise, on the breakaway. Playing at home, it is absurd to sacrifice one winger, your best (Bobby Charlton) wholly in midfield, while the other winger (Ball) is an inside-forward, virtually playing as such. It is silly and irrelevant to blame 4-3-3 for such failings; Liverpool, Chelsea and Leeds United have all shown that it can work in the cause of scoring goals, as well as preventing them.

Defensive

Modern football, with the enormous prizes at stake, the huge, potential losses, will continue to be defensive. But football has been that for 40 years. 4-3-3, like the third back game, is neither a magic formula nor a symbol of negativity. It is simply a question of finding the right . . . specialists.

The recent experiences of a player like Giacinto Facchetti, the Inter and Italy left-back, suggest that even these have their problems. Recently, when I was in Milan, Karl-Heinz Schnellinger, that excellent German defender, said to me that he thought the Press would destroy Facchetti, with their demands that he score more and more goals. When, inevitably, he didn't, Facchetti would begin to worry about it, and his play would suffer in consequence.

The France–Italy international suggested there might be something in Schnellinger's forebodings. Facchetti had a poor game, worried in defence by Baraffe, the French right-winger, seldom launching himself into telling attack. Whatever system you are playing, whatever number you put on the man's back, whatever extra duties you invent for him, a full-back's primary job is still to defend; anything else comes as a bonus.

And, still talking of the Italian team which played in Paris, let it be noted that it played with two orthodox wingers; even three, if you remember that Meroni came on for Domenghini, in the second half. This, from the land of the "withdrawn" winger, the Corso-figure. It is clear enough that Mr. Ramsey will have to think again. The example of a player like little Alan Ball, of Blackpool, illustrates the danger of his strange heresy. Perhaps it might be better expressed that anybody can do anything; but not well enough for top class football.

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SPIES SEE THAT PARIS TIE

INTERNATIONAL POST-MORTEM

Each month on these pages we go back over the major internationals played since the last issue. The particular games featured are indicated at the head of the article for quick reference.

by GORDON JEFFERY

THE French attendance of 31,795 at the Parc des Princes, Paris, for the Saturday International match between France and Italy was a disappointment to the enthusiasts in France whose eyes are fixed on the World Cup. They were quick to note that 37,297 spectators—nearly 6,000 more—had turned up to see Rennes play Reims in a French Cup-tie the previous Sunday—and, of course, neither Rennes nor Reims are Paris clubs!

The result, although a win over Italy continues to elude the French as it has done since 1920, was less of a disappointment and what the attendance lacked in quantity it partly made up in quality with "spies", including England team-manager Alf Ramsey, from several potential World Cup opponents of France and Italy watching the goalless encounter.

It seems to me doubtful whether much can be learned about performance on the field from many of the warming-up matches to be played between now and the actual World Cup matches. What may be discerned are, amongst other things, indications of the progress of team-building, both in respect of the most likely "star" eleven and of reserve cover; and, implied in these indications, the obvious strengths and the possible weaknesses of different countries. I had recently to get down to one of my annual chores of setting-out the results and line-ups for the past year's football of several countries. When line-ups are in tidy, tabulated order it is easy to flip over the pages and to note how Brazil, save for single matches when Valdir was in goal and Altair at right-back and for occasional substitutions, kept a solid defence of Manga-Djalma Santos - Bellini - Orlando - Rildo; that Dudu was consistently on duty as one of the linkmen but there were doubts about his colleague; that Pelé, of course, was an ever-present but that Garrincha and Jairzinho roughly shared the right-wing spot and Rinaldo and Parana did the same on the left.

To note, on my next page, that England were in much the same position with Banks-Cohen-Jack Charlton - Wilson - Stiles - Moore virtually unchanged over a dozen matches but the permutations never ending amongst the forwards. Argentina were in a somewhat similar position but Hungary and Italy both showed more defensive than forward changes whilst the Soviet Union in the course of 13 matches between May 1965 and February 1966 deployed 37 different players with only Metreveli playing some part in every match!

Doubters can dismiss this interest in line-ups by reminders that the sudden emergence of exceptional young players or the loss of form of regular national players can confound all the careful and patient blending processes. Then perhaps the national team manager who, despite a professional awareness of the tactical approach of his opponents and a cautious acceptance of the tactics necessary to counter theirs and to spring his own attacks, yet keeps faith with players who can play it solo, can gain the edge by gambling (but is it even a gamble?) on inherent genius.

There was not much touch of genius about the France–Italy meeting when, as was I suppose to have been expected, both sides exercised their defensive strengths. Whether the result was taken as praise for this or whether it marked a failure by their attacks is for Guerin for France and Fabbri for Italy to muse upon. As it was the nearest either side came to scoring was when Rivera headed the ball past Aubour in the 14th minute—only to be given off-side: a decision that seemed to have been confirmed as correct by a series of photos that *France Football* printed later, photos which, incidentally, suggest that either Rivera is a better header of the ball than anyone would have suspected—or he achieved the feat of shaping to guide the ball to the left whilst turning it to the right by accident!

Settled

As to the teams on duty in Paris—there is quite a settled look about the French defence these days with Marcel Aubour an ever-present in goal since making his first appearance against Luxembourg in a World Cup qualifying match in October 1964; Bernard Bosquier missing only once since his début two matches later in December 1964; Chorda, after being for a while in the wilderness, back for the vital qualifying matches of last autumn against Norway and Yugoslavia; "sweeper" Robert Budzinski introduced for the first time in that match against Yugoslavia last October that virtually ensured France's place in the World Cup final stages; and Marcel Artelesa, with Chorda the most experienced defender, reliable—an ever-present in 1964 and absent in 1965 only for France's opening match when

MARCH MATCHES

March 19:	France 0 Italy 0	Paris
,, 23:	Netherlands 2 West Germany 4	Rotterdam
,, 30:	Wales 1 Northern Ireland 4	Cardiff

Sigi Held, West German centre-forward, pulling up his socks prior to a practice session. (P.A.I.)

they lost a friendly against Austria by the odd goal in three in Paris.

Playing as a linkman in his first full International appearance in that unhappy match was Robert Peri. He has been ignored since but made his re-appearance against Italy—not it seems very happily with neither he nor Robert Herbin able to get their forwards quickly through the Italian defence. Herbin, although he has his critics in France (but so has Bobby Charlton in this country!), seems fairly certain, barring injuries, of his place, but team-manager Guerin is hoping to have the Barcelona star (ex-Real Madrid) Lucien Muller back in a French shirt for the match against the Soviet Union on June 5. Before that France have a match against Belgium but Barcelona's commitments may force Guerin to look elsewhere for his second linkman for that match.

Up front, although Baraffe-Gondet-Simon-Hausser failed to penetrate the Italian defence (and they may not be asked to beat their heads against many stronger walls), Guerin may be disposed to persevere. Baraffe (Toulouse) had made his first appearance for France in December 1964 against Belgium — out of position (at inside-left) in an emergency. Belgium trounced France by three goals to nil and we heard little more about Baraffe. Now, however, playing on the right wing and despite being in direct opposition to Facchetti, Baraffe had a good game against Italy and has earned further chances. On the left wing Gerard Hausser was making his seventh successive appearance—an ever-present in 1965—and did nothing to either enhance or mar his future prospects. The interesting aspect of the forward "four" was the appearance as twin-strikers of the Nantes goal-scoring pair Jacques Simon and Philippe Gondet. Gondet with, at the time of writing, 26 goals from 29 out of a total to be played of 38 matches is within ten goals of beating the French League scoring record held jointly by Masnaghetti and Andersson.

Simon has weighed in with a further 12 goals in the same period. Both played last year for France but never together — Simon played in the first three of France's six 1965 matches, Gondet in the last two. Together against Italy for the first time they went goalless but there must be more chances to come—and no doubt every Frenchman is dreaming of another Kopa-Fontaine tandem as in Sweden in 1958!

The much awaited soccer international France-Italy match, played at Parc Des Princes, Paris never rose above the mediocre. The match resulted in a goal-less draw. Photo shows: A struggle for possession between Baraffe (left), of France, and Merino of Italy. (Central.)

Italy had not played since their decisive three-nil victory over Scotland in Naples last December. Their team against France was little changed in defence with Albertosi in goal, Burgnich (he had missed the previous Italian league match for Inter because he was suspended), Salvadore and Facchetti the backs; and Roberto Rosato at wing-half all reappearing. There was a change at left-half—the inner of the two left-backs to attempt to be more precise!—with Fiorentina's Pirovano coming in. But at half-time he stayed behind in the dressing-room and the reliable Lodetti came out to complete what, at the moment at any rate, seems to be the settled Italian defence.

Up front the line against Scotland had been Mora–Bulgarelli–Mazzola – Rivera – Pascutti. Unlucky Mora with a broken leg is a non-starter and the pre-match selection for outside-right was Bulgarelli or Angelo Domenghini with, in the event, the latter getting the job only to be replaced at half-time by a newcomer, Merino of Turin. On the left wing the 21-year-old Luigi Riva of the unfashionable Cagliari club was given the chance that had been denied him earlier, except for a substitution in the friendly against Hungary last June, because Italy could not afford to gamble during the qualifying competition matches.

Sandro Mazzola was in his expected place at centre-forward and Mario Corso, one of the "problem" players of Italian football, joined Rivera in the scheming role in a style that resembled (I dislike being *fixed* in these combinations of ten!) 1-4-2-3 with Salvadore the one of course, Burgnich, Rosato, Lodetti, Facchetti the four, Rivera and Corso the two, and the forward three the wingers and centre-forward. Mazzola and Meroni in the Italian judgment had fair games but no one found much that was good to say about the use as a pair of Rivera and Corso and with Rivera still the golden boy (on the whole deservedly, I think) it looks like the return of Bulgarelli.

Good effect

West Germany are steadily building with good effect even if an unfortunate run of injuries to backs and a change in emphasis in Netherlands play were probably more reason for the spate of goals than any marked improvement in the German attack. Goals have been as rare in International matches in which the Netherlands have taken part as they are in Italian League football. From March 1964, for example, with the Dutch score given first in every case, here is how the results have run: 0-0; 1-1; 0-1; 2-0; 0-1; 2-0; 1-1; 1-0; 1-2; 0-0; 0-0; 1-2! Twelve matches during which the Netherlands have themselves scored nine goals and conceded eight!

This year, however, in training matches against foreign club sides the national eleven have beaten Racing Club Strasburg 7-0 and Eintracht Frankfurt (a shadow of the side of a few years back of course) by four goals to one. With West Germany set to have Uwe Seeler back on duty it seemed likely that the Netherlands–West Germany match would produce some goals as a change from the low-scoring matches we have been getting when World Cup aspirants were in action. It would have been a better test for the Germans, however, and a fairer guide to Netherlands prospects for the Nations Cup if the Dutch had been able to field their strongest side, but in league matches just before the International that promising back Frits Flinkevleugel and his likely deputy Willy Quaedackers were both injured—both coincidentally when playing against Willem II. Nor did the Dutch play, as had been hoped, both of their bright young forwards—Willy Van Der Kuylen (PSV) and Willy Dullens of the Second Division club, Sittardia. The former played with Swart, Nuninga and Moulijn as the forward four. Fransen (not in the originally selected 15 for the match) and Bennie Muller were the linkmen; Pijs, Israel, Schrijvers and Veldhoen the defensive four and Eddy Pieters Graafland in goal.

West Germany are still content to ring the changes in their line-up. Missing, but by no means necessarily "dropped", from the 18 players originally named for the Wembley match against England a month before were Piontek, Szymaniak, Heiss, Netzer and Hornig. Added to that list to make the first list of 20 players named for the match against the Netherlands were the number three 'keeper Maier (Bayern Munich), half-back Ferner, and forwards Brulls playing in Italy for Brescia, Ulsass, Brenninger and the Borussia Dortmund wingers Libuda and Lothar Emmerich.

The latter is the leading goal-scorer in the German League with 28 goals from 27 matches at

● *Continued on page* 35

LESLIE VERNON . . . . . speaking personally

NEW SLANT ON FOULS

THE World Cup Organising Committee has pocketed the fantastic sum of over one million pounds for tickets for the Finals, to date, due partly to the still magical appeal of the game, and partly to the ingenious system of selling only season tickets. The proud ticket-holders are walking around with smiling faces, showing off their vouchers, well knowing that a World Cup Final ticket will soon be as rare a piece of property as an F.A. Cup Final ticket. Those happy smiles may be wiped off after a couple of games in July, not because of the results, but because of some strange tactics which will be introduced in England for the first time.

The inventors of this new "finesse" are the South Americans, generally, and the Brazilians, particularly. The essence of these tactics is to stop opposing forwards, simply by committing deliberate fouls at the opportune moment. They are called—very scientifically and correctly, "tactical fouls". As soon as the defenders realise that they are outnumbered or outmanœuvred, they handle the ball deliberately, or give a slight push to the opposing forward in possession of the ball. With more sophisticated teams, such as International sides, it is the goalkeeper who gives a pre-arranged signal to a defender to commit a tactical foul. With the fast flowing 4-3-3 system, being outnumbered either in attack or defence is the greatest fear of any team, and the South Americans found the foolproof remedy—as usual. "Tactical fouls" are accepted as part of the game, like kicking the ball out for a throw-in, the referees blow up for a free-kick, and politely wait until the defences get reorganised before they restart the game! Lajos Baroti, Hungarian team manager, told me about these tactics which are common in all five South American countries taking part in the Finals.

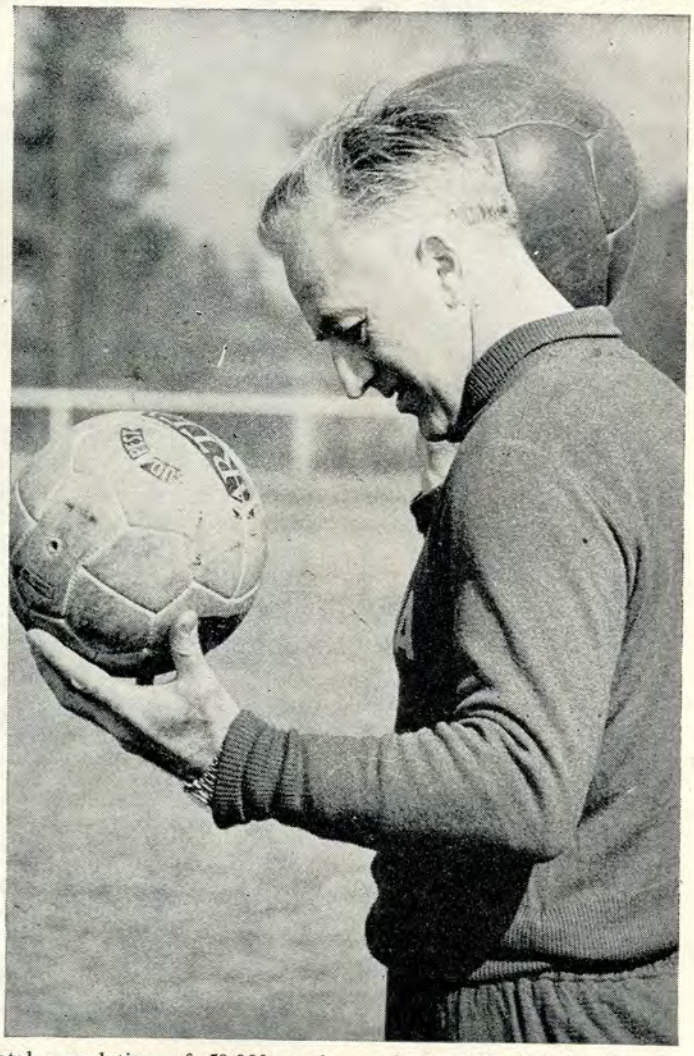
"At first we were astonished at the referees' attitude," said Baroti, "who were meekly accepting these despicable tactics, not even warning the players for ungentlemanly conduct. Then we realised that since the fouls were committed cleverly in rotation by the players, it would be difficult to punish just one of them. These tactics are very effective and I am quite sure the South Americans will use them in the Finals. The rage of Brazil today, could easily be the fashion of Europe tomorrow!"—"How about Hungary?"—"My players are not clever enough to get away with it!", answered Baroti with a smile and a wink....

So the Brazilians are defending by hook or crook what they have, but not so the League Management Committee. It has been reported that the U.E.F.A. proposes to reduce the entry to the Inter Cities Fairs' Cup to 32, instead of 48—i.e., one team from one country. Not a word of protest from the British Press nor a peep out of Mr. Hardaker. The very same journalists were campaigning for years for a European League, and should recognise that the I.C.F.C. is a better, more workable solution. They should ask for an increase in the number of the entrants to 64, realising that these matches were the greatest shot in the arm British football had since the war.

Puerile

The U.E.F.A.'s argument that more matches give more opportunity for bad crowd behaviour is so puerile and obvious, that it does not deserve an answer. Taking it to its logical conclusion, the least controversial moment of the competition was the toss-up in Milan after the Milan–Chelsea match. So let's stick to spinning coins instead of kicking nasty little footballs!

Look at the wonderful games at Chelsea and Leeds, the opportunity of seeing such players as Rivera, Schnellinger, Radenkovic and Bene in action, the fantastic interest here and abroad, the marvellous attendances not only in England but all over Europe. Ujpest had 30,000 against Leeds on a weekday afternoon out of a total population of 50,000, and that after being three goals down! Why should Mr. Hardaker be disturbed? Because thanks to the I.C.F.C. the League placings became important, the crowds are coming back and last but not least the League Cup would be a dead duck without the additional ticket into Europe.



LAJOS BAROTI. (Planet.)

The worst feature of this year's competition was, of course, the outrage in Rome. The blame should be put squarely on the shoulders of the Italian Press, who pre-conditioned the crowd to such an extent, that the "monsters from Stamford Bridge" was the kindest remark I heard that evening in Rome.

This pre-conditioning by the Press is no small matter and the British Press is not completely innocent of it. By and large the reporting is fair, unbiased, but we still read too much about the Continental bodychecking and shirt-pulling. This is complete fabrication as proved time and again by visiting foreign teams in this country. Another favourite gambit is to accuse the foreigners of faking injuries in order to bring in substitutes. The honest British boy on the floor is always genuinely hurt, the cunning foreign player only pretends to have a broken leg! Crowds are so bemused by this slanted reporting, that visiting players are booed the moment they commit one single foul, and the noise is the greatest when a foreign player is injured, even when substitutes are *not* allowed in that particular competition. I make a small plea on behalf of my Continental colleagues to our English journalist friends: ask them to report as fairly as they have always done—leaving out the occasional digs!

The Continental Press is still busy paying lip service to the notion that England will win the World Cup. The latest celebrity, who has been widely interviewed on the subject, is Asparoukhov,

● *Continued on facing page*

EPIC STRUGGLE IN CUP FARE

EIRE ROUND-UP by Tom Muldowney

SO Waterford lost the Eire Cup semi-final replay to Shamrock Rovers. But my goodness what an epic they help provide. And what cash was paid by record crowds to see it. Now Waterford set sights on the championship and entry into European competition. And as with the Cup, Rovers stand in the way.

A record run of league wins, 13 in all, shattered Sligo Rovers 30-year-old, 11 in a row. Add cup wins over Home Farm and Dalkey United and hopes of a cup-league coup soared by the Suir. But when "Blues" seemed set for the double came the shock news that Inter-League goal grabbing leader Mick Lynch had broken a bone in his back and was out of football for the rest of the season. Full-back Shamie Casey was also sidelined. Misfortune that could not have been more ill timed.

Yet without this pair Waterford fought back from a goal down to hold a 2-1 lead, going into the last quarter. Justice was done when former Derry City leader Bobby Gilbert made a replay possible. Casey fit for replay said the headlines: Then a real bombshell; Lynch leaves sick bed. Lynch leads Waterford for second tilt against Rovers. Yes, it was something Brian Glanville wouldn't expect from Gerry Logan. Then Lynch is a law unto himself. A match-winner and crowd-pleaser in his own right. So Waterford were made hot-favs even against record Rovers.

Alas, no happy ending for Waterford or Lynch. Fit? It appeared like a soccer miracle. It wasn't. He was not; brave fellow! It was a wonderful gesture. That did not come off. Ronnie Nolan, veteran of a thousand battles, playing pivot in the green-white, controlled the middle. Seldom did Lynch the lionheart get a chance. Towards the end he went off. Returned. Then it was hopeless. All was lost! Lost for Lynch. For coach Coad and Waterford. For Jimmy Geough, the slim, black-haired Scot who joined the "Blues" from Derry after winning the Irish League "Player of the Year" award. But for him, Waterford's defeat would have been more convincing and would have come much earlier.

Up to this game, Geough had never played on a losing Waterford team. He carved his name with pride on this game, and well deserved to finish up on the winning side. Brilliant on the ball, or off it. In deep defence, or as a sixth forward, he was the man of the match. He hit a goal from 30 yards and crashed the wood twice, at times that might have changed the whole course of the game, had they gone in. All in vain. For a player that must stand an excellent chance of becoming Eire's Soccer Personality of the Year, this was his finest hour.

I watched Geough and his disappointed team-mates go off. Standing there on the mist shrouded steps under the Phisboro Pylons, beacons of light in a sea of darkness, I had witnessed history repeat. Witnessed another defeat for Waterford as they stood on the trophy threshold. Another bitter blow for a team whose stylish play has ever been their hallmark. I felt sorry for them. And glad I was not a supporter. I would lack their ability to take it on the chin and say as secretary Bolger and coach Coad said: "There's always next year." Always next year.

I sympathised with those blue-decked, football crazed followers. Their flags limp and unfurled. Hats without the jaunty tilt. Colours worn with a fierce pride. As if saying "We were beat. So what: At least we gave our best. It takes two teams to make a game as good as this one was." Yes, it was another long journey in vain. Another might have been. How often, I wonder, have so many travelled so far for so little success. Come, you Waterford readers of WORLD SOCCER, on a backward journey to when it all began.

To 1930. The season Waterford entered senior soccer. And with a combination of local and cross-channel players achieved Shield success at the very first attempt. And failure. For out they went from the premier league, only to return a season later.

In 1937 Waterford won the Cup for the first and to date only time. It was a good side that beat the great St. James Gate by 2-1. One of the goals came from Eugene Noonan, a full-back, selected to lead the line in place of Jimmy Walsh. Noonan was one star. Arrigan, Phelan, Tim O'Keeffe and the former Evertonman McGourty were others, still recalled at Kilcohan Park. How many Waterford folk who cheered that triumph could have foreseen that, 29 years later, it would not have been repeated.

They chased the double in 1941. Losing both to Cork Athletic. The cup on the field of play 3-1. The championship in the board-room where a pay squabble led to a strike. Cork were awarded the league and Waterford joined the limbo of the lost.

Came the end of the war and the long road back commenced with another Scot, Dave McCulloch, in charge. Years of unrewarded toil! And a word of praise to all who helped. Especially those who played for pleasure, when the kitty was empty. 1954; what a great year! What a great team! Led by Jimmy McIlvenny. Remember him, you English readers. In this World Cup year, recall another one, when Jimmy led the U.S.A. With him was Jimmy Gauld, Eire's greatest post-war crowd-puller. They swept all before them. But failed to capture a trophy.

Glued!

Recall that semi-final. Waterford, for the Cup! Drumcondra had no answer to Gauld. No? International centre-forward Dessie Glynn switched to left-half, glued himself to the free scoring, high soaring Scot. The move paid off Drums marched on to lose to Rovers. And for Waterford the golden days were over for another while. One better in 1959 when Con Martin kept the score to 2-2 in the final, but saw his team lose 2-1 in the replay.

I watched big Con, Dixie Hale, Griffin and the Fitzgeralds run off defeated and disappointed. I saw the blue-decked supporters turn sadly away to their cars, buses and trains. And heard again, from throats, hoarse from shouting, "There's always next year. We'll be back."

The lights were out as I reached the corner. The night was black. The mist turning to rain. The south bound traffic streamed slowly into the darkness. And I found myself saying There's always next year. They'll be back."

LESLIE VERNON—*Continued from facing page*

the world class Bulgarian centre-forward, better known at home and in Europe by his nickname, "Gundi". He bases his observations on the evidence of the Manchester United–Benfica matches, probably not realising that there were only four Englishmen on the field at Lisbon. The famous victory rather harmed England's chances than enhanced them, by throwing additional burden on the already sagging shoulders of Nobby Stiles and Bobby Charlton. The amount of football played this season by these players and most of the other members of the England squad is quite fantastic. Many real experts on the Continent in fact now realise that England has no chance in the World Cup. They lost the opportunity last summer when this season's strenuous fixture lists were drawn up. By the middle of July the England players will be jaded and stale; despite the home advantage they face an impossible task.

The question is not whether Ramsey is using the right system and the wrong players or the wrong system and the right players, but how to preserve some sort of energy, eagerness to kick the ball by July 11. The problem is not that the England players are not playing often enough together, but that they are playing too much—together or otherwise. I would like to urge Mr. Ramsey to cancel the close season tour to Scandinavia, order complete rest for the players, then have a couple of training games at home before the start of the World Cup.

Use the qualifying games as a means to get into full flight, the draw and the spacing of the games are easy enough to allow that liberty. By the quarter-finals England might have a good and fit team enjoying their game—not sick of the sight of a football! This advice will be ignored, England will go on this unnecessary tour and come back to Wembley beaten before the tournament starts! Who will win then?—Brazil, Italy or, wait for it—Hungary!

Even better than that of England

News from Switzerland by Arthur Rotmil

FOR a small country with a population of about five million, Switzerland's World Cup record is truly remarkable.

In seven attempts, they have only once failed to qualify, namely for the 1958 finals, when they were unfortunate in having to oppose Scotland and Spain in the preliminary rounds, but I am certain that many readers will be surprised to learn that Switzerland's record in the actual finals is better even than England's! Here are the relative figures:

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
Switzerland	15	5	2	8	27	35
England	14	3	5	6	19	21

Two defeats

Of course, it could be argued that the Swiss suffered two more defeats, but on the other hand they also scored two more victories and don't forget that in those 14 matches, England were able to call on such famous forwards as Matthews, Finney, Mannion, Mortensen, Milburn, Haynes, Tommy Taylor, Greaves and Bobby Charlton!

The Swiss can also claim that they are unbeaten in two games against Brazil. The first of these during the World Cup finals of 1950, in Rio, ended in a 2-2 draw, while the other was a friendly in Zürich in 1956 and finished 1-1, even if they needed the assistance of Brazilian full-back De Sordi, who put through his own goal!

Preparing for next July's tournament, however, the Swiss are under no illusions about the task ahead being grouped with such giants as Argentina, West Germany and Spain. Indeed, only a bold optimist or a fanatic could predict or expect that Switzerland would qualify from such an assembly for the quarter-finals.

Contract

The preparations of the national side are in the most capable hands of Dr. Alfredo Foni, the Italian-born manager who starred at right full-back in Italy's World Cup winning team in 1938. His contract was recently extended by a further four years which should give him added confidence to inspire the team he led so bravely through the tough qualifying rounds last year.

It was the dismal goal-less draw with Holland in Amsterdam which finally convinced Foni that modern massed defences can only be overcome by fast raiding specialist wingers (Mr. Ramsey please note!) and it is to his credit that for the vital return clash in Berne, which meant all or nothing to this country, he found the courage to recall two conventional wing forwards in Toni Allemann and Jean-Claude Schindelholz.

The rest is, of course, past history now. The Swiss triumphed by 2-1 and qualified without a play-off with generous assistance of the Albanians who snatched that decisive point in their 1-1 draw with the Northern Irish.

There is little doubt that the majority of those players will represent Switzerland in the World Cup battles to come. The defence, steady and reliable, has conceded only three goals in the six qualifying games. They have an experienced goalkeeper in Charles Elsener and four capable defenders in Andre Grobéty, Werner Leimgruber, Heinz Schneiter and Hansruedi Fuhrer.

The mid-field linkmen should be Heinz Bäni and Köbi Kuhn but the main problems are in attack. While the sharpshooting Robert Hosp and the forceful Jean-Claude Schindelholz should keep their places there must be doubts concerning Toni Allemann and the talented but lacking weight Karl Odermatt. Allemann in particular, for all his experience and despite scoring that "golden" winning goal against the Dutch, is clearly past his best.

For the first trial game of the year with a Select City XI in Berlin, on March 30, players from F.C. Zürich and Servette were not available but this gave Dr. Foni an opportunity of trying out several other candidates. The Swiss won by 3-2, with goals from Hertig, Quentin and Odermatt after a fine display in which the forward line, so often criticised for their lack of punch, was a revelation. Of those who did not play against Holland, Dürr, Vuilleumier but above all—Quentin, described as the best man afield, gave first class performances. The next big assignment — as I write — is the first ever international with Russia in Basel on April 20, a game which has aroused great interest despite the poor showing of Russian champions Torpedo Moscow, who failed to win a game during their short tour here, though it should be noted, that they were without their World Cup men, Kavazashvili, Voronin and Ivanov.

Torpedo, who—as was officially confirmed—will be Russia's first ever European Cup of the Champions entry next season, were beaten 3-4 by Lausanne, drew 2-2 with Young Boys of Berne and then lost 0-1 to regional team Etoile Carouge who were strengthened by a couple of F.C. Sion players.

NATIONAL LEAGUE as on April 6

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P.
F.C. Zürich	18	13	4	1	54	15	30
Servette	17	10	5	2	42	32	25
Lausanne	18	8	6	4	50	29	22
Grenchen	18	7	6	5	36	38	20
Basel	17	7	5	5	42	33	19
Young Boys	18	7	5	6	54	35	19
Grasshoppers	18	7	5	6	41	38	19
Lugano	19	6	6	7	21	26	18
F.C. Sion	19	6	6	7	20	28	18
Chaux-de-Fonds	17	6	5	6	30	30	17
Biel	19	4	7	8	23	42	15
Young Fellows	18	4	4	10	28	51	12
Lucerne	19	2	8	9	28	45	12
Urania Geneva	17	2	2	13	20	47	6

Champions

But there was little joy for Swiss clubs in this season's major international competitions. Champions Lausanne went out in the first round to Sparta Prague on a 0-4 aggregate, while in the Cup-Winners' Cup the F.C. Sion flattered—when they disposed of the tough Turkish side Galatasaray Istanbul by 6-3—only to deceive, when crashing to 1 FC Magdeburg on a joint score of 3-10.

In the Fairs Cup, Servette eliminated AIK Stockholm by 5-3, then fell to 1860 Munich by 2-5, while Basel were knocked out by Valencia on a 2-8 aggregate.

HEINZ BANI (Keystone.)

On the domestic scene, the F.A. Cup final will be disputed between the country's top teams at present, namely F.C. Zürich and Servette of Geneva.

The team-of-the-season are undoubtedly Zürich, who already held a six-point lead at the half-way stage of the championship and now look poised for the coveted Cup and League double. Their stars are Leimgruber, Bäni, Kuhn, Künzli and German international Klaus Stürmer, who starred for Hamburg S.V. when they knocked out Burnley in the European Cup of 1961. If Zürich clinch the title they will be worthy representatives and certainly not lacking experience, for they reached the European Cup semi-finals already in 1964. They should be considerably strengthened next season by the acquisition of a new manager-coach, the famous Ladislav Kubala, one of the greatest post-war inside-forwards in Europe, who has just signed a two-year contract.

Kubala was born in Hungary but became naturalised in Spain and holds something of a record, for he represented Czechoslovakia 11 times, Hungary six times and Spain 19 times. He also played for F.I.F.A. and scored twice in the 4-4 draw with England at Wembley in 1953.

Three unhappy characters figure in this episode-picture taken at a recent Sydney match between Croatia and Pan Hellenic. Croatia goalie Omar Collazo, an Argentinian, sits on the ground in a pensive mood while a Pan Hellenic forward overacts, no doubt trying to impress the referee. Croatia wing-half Baker (No. 6), seemingly disgusted with the scene, walks away. (A.D.I.)

POACHING LEADS TO BIG TROUBLE

AUSTRALIAN NEWS from Andrew Dettre

FOR long one of the major "importers" of British soccer talent, Melbourne club Slavia are now in hot water over the alleged poaching of Manchester City player Alf Wood. Apparently Wood had told his club about the Melbourne offer, which in turn reported it to the F.A. Finally, the Australian Federation received a complaint—and promptly initiated an inquiry. If found guilty, Slavia may be fined $5,000 (some £2,000), suspended or even expelled.

In the past few years Slavia, through their connections in Britain, have brought out many players to Australia. Whether through purpose or coincidence, many of them stayed only a short time with the club before being transferred to Sydney clubs for hefty fees. Stan Ackerley, Des Palmer, John Doherty, John Duffy and others thus helped enrich Slavia who, normally, bring out the players under the assisted migrant scheme.

The much discussed plan for National League may now be shelved for a while. Many major clubs, including the biggest, APIA (Sydney) have changed their tune and developed jitters about this scheme which would involve a superb organisation and plenty of cash. New South Wales, for long the prime movers behind the idea, have voted against it and the other States are certain to follow. So it now looks as though the League would not become a reality for several more years.

Still on the administrative side of the game, Australia will send two delegates to the July F.I.F.A. Congress: president Bill Walkley, the retired oil magnate, and secretary Ian McAndrew. However, a third Australian official will go with them in a different capacity: vice-president Jim Bayutti, undoubtedly Australian soccer's most dynamic and enterprising leader. He will attend the Congress as a delegate of the quasi-formed Oceanic Confederation.

If this body receives the official blessing of F.I.F.A., Bayutti is certain to be its first president and gain, in the process, automatic appointment as a new F.I.F.A. vice-president. He may not have the experience of some of the European administrators—but even so, his presence at F.I.F.A. meetings will be strongly felt.

On May 24 the Italian team AS Roma will arrive for a long tour of Australia and the large Italian migrant communities will be mobilised for the occasion. But interest in the visit is extremely high in all other circles as well; after all, this will be the first time Australians will see a European Latin country's representative team in action. Stars like Cudicini, Losi, Barison and others are eagerly awaited by fans in major cities and comparisons are certain to be made between Roma and our recent guests Everton, Chelsea, Torpedo Moscow and Slovan Bratislava.

Meanwhile, the league seasons have started or about to start in the various States. In Melbourne lowly Alexander, a Greek-sponsored team, shocked one and all by winning their first two league matches while such giants as Juventus and Hakoah are struggling to find form. Croatia grabbed the lead after two rounds, thanks to their brilliant ex-Scotland international Duncan McKay shining at wing-half. The two Melbourne "giants", Hellas and George Cross, both show patchy early season form.

In Sydney the league competition will have begun by the time this is read. The three big favourites for the title are APIA, Hakoah and St. George, all laden with talent. A new challenge may come from Croatia who have acquired the tag of "Sydney millionaires" by spending a fortune on new players.

Croatia are the first Sydney team to enlist their clubhouse resources fully in aid of building a team. Sydney, with its liberal gambling laws, now has dozens of sporting clubs enjoying fantastic revenues from poker machines.

Some Rugby clubs make as much as £500,000 a year and are little more than glittering casinos. Soccer is gradually following the example and most first division clubs either have or are about to have their own club premises fitted out with rows and rows of poker machines. Once they are fully operational and the coins keep rolling in, most financial worries of clubs will be over.

Sydney clubs now pay wages and bonuses to players far in excess of gate takings. Thanks to the poker machines, soon they will be able to afford to spend the way they have been spending for years. . . .

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Brazil select 4-2-4

HAVING studied the composition of Brazil's World Cup squad which began special training on April 1, experts in South America are convinced that the world champions will play a strict 4-2-4, relying on fast raiding wingers to demolish the massed defences which threaten to dominate next July's tournament.

This theory is supported by the first practice games and confirmed by the omission of the experienced Zagalo, from the squad of 45 players. Zagalo — nominally a left-winger — starred in two World Cup-winning teams of 1958 and 1962, but in the last series in particular, when Brazil were deprived of Pelé — who was injured in an early match and missed the rest of the tournament — they decided to play with caution and instructed Zagalo to drop back into mid-field. Hence the misguided assumption by some commentators, that Brazil had settled for 4-3-3.

But now, manager Vicente Feola having watched his principal rivals and advocates of ultra-defensive methods, can revert to his original conception of the game and is truly delighted by the recent sensational displays of Botafogo's wingers Jairzinho and Parada, the return to form of Garrincha, Rinaldo and Parana, plus their new starlet, the 17-year-old Edu, all specialist wingmen and all of them included in the current World Cup squad.

They will probably sweep along the touchlines, drawing the defenders and divert attention from Brazil's main weapon — Pelé.

The candidates, fighting for first team places, have literally plunged themselves into action in training, with an exuberance quite astonishing by South American standards. Garrincha, for example, claims never to have trained harder in his life and has already lost a stone in weight! But he has good reason to worry about his place for Brazil's latest idol is the 21-year-old right-winger, Jairzinho. Earlier this year, when his club Botafogo beat Santos by 2-1 and 3-0 during a tournament in Caracas, Venezuela, he was described as the best player on view, despite Pelé's presence, and in fact Pelé promptly asked his manager Lula to buy him, but Botafogo rejected an initial offer of £83,000, which is a colossal transfer sum between South American clubs.

In a recent decisive match between Botafogo and Vasco da Gama in the annual Rio/Sao Paulo series for the all-Brazilian championship, Jairzinho hit two superb goals and is now hailed as Brazil's greatest footballer — next to Pelé. Another brilliant personality was left-winger Parada, whose free-kicks are reminiscent of the great Didi. From one of those, the ball flew over the wall of defenders and then swerved viciously, completely deceiving the 'keeper, to give Botafogo a 3-0 victory, which allowed them to share top place with Vasco, Santos and Corinthians.

It is obvious that the star-studded Brazilian eleven can afford in the World Cup to line up in any formation they choose and they are unlikely to be mesmerised by their opponents' self-inflicted plans or systems — least of all, by that bingo-style game of numbers, known as 4-3-3!

Two-month training

HUNGARY'S World Cup preparations are now in their second phase, following the two-month training spell at the Olympic village of Tata. The national team, assembling together three times a week, have — since March 31 — been playing against foreign sides at different levels every Wednesday and will continue with this programme until their departure for England in July. This is in addition to full internationals, scheduled against Poland in Budapest on April 20, Yugoslavia in Belgrade on May 8 and Switzerland in Budapest on June 5.

RAFAEL ALBRECHT (Argentina). (M.P.I.)

In the training centre, the first real sensation was the expulsion from the squad of half-backs Ferenc Sipos, who holds 70 caps, and the promising Ferenc Nogradi. They had been "living it up" on the town one night and failed to return to their quarters before 10.30 p.m. — the deadline stipulated by regulations. Whether this ban is permanent remains to be seen, but at least neither of them was included in the party which visited Switzerland for the first of their weekly trial games.

We often hear these days that European Cup football is responsible for the defensive trends which have crept into our League matches and with goals scarce, we are told, the spectators are being driven away from the game.

As usual, most of these statements and criticisms have been made on the evidence of one or two games, without taking account of the picture as a whole.

I am presenting, therefore, some statistics which disprove those claims and avoiding the earlier rounds, where stronger teams pile up goals against weaker opponents, have concentrated on the full quarter-final round of this season's European Cup.

	Result	Gate
Manchester United v. Benfica	3-2	63,000
Benfica v. Manchester United	1-5	70,000
Anderlecht v. Real Madrid	1-0	40,000
Real Madrid v. Anderlecht	4-2	80,000
Inter-Milan v. Ferencvaros	4-0	60,000
Ferencvaros v. Inter-Milan	1-1	70,000
Sparta Prague v. Partizan Belgrade .	4-1	45,000
Partizan Belgrade v. Sparta Prague .	5-0	50,000
Total:	34	478,000

It will be seen that the eight meetings drew on average nearly 60,000 spectators per game. Would you say that interest was dwindling?

The ties produced 34 goals, which works out at a fraction over four goals per match. Would you call that defensive football? Of course not!

Exit another hoary tale. . . .

Chaos takes over

LAST month I reported on the serious problems facing Uruguay in their preparations and now there is further news of yet another crisis which threatens their World Cup prospects.

The leading clubs, Peñarol and Nacional, who between them form the national side, have refused to support the F.A. and are not releasing players for special training, as they prefer to concentrate on the lucrative South American Cup, which is expected to continue until the end of May.

Manager Ondino Viera with his assistants, Juan Lopez and Twamier Borras, have been forced to train a so-called World Cup squad of 30, of whom only three players are considered good enough to travel to England. On March 15, a "B" team was due to start on a tour of Europe with games planned in East Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, Greece and West Germany, but when Cerro Montevideo — the third most important club here — turned their back on the F.A. and departed for Mexico to play a series of friendlies till the end of May, Viera lost

Torres, the Benfica centre-forward, catches up with the ball in the back of the net after scoring in the first leg of the European Cup quarter final match against Manchester United. (A.P.I.)

patience, cancelled the European trip and suspended all World Cup preparations!

Absolute chaos has been reigning here for some time. While Rampla Juniors are trying to buy back from Argentina their internationals Silveira and Dalmao, Uruguay's star wing-half, Mendez, has left for Brazil to negotiate his own transfer to Vasco da Gama, and the country's best forward and top scorer, Rocha, has been in contact with Estudiantes (Argentina), for the same purpose. With this state of affairs it is thought here that if Uruguay qualify even for the quarter-finals, it would be the greatest miracle of this, or any other, World Cup competition.

Love and money!

ARGENTINA'S World Cup squad have been training with such enthusiasm that they are already beset with injuries — and also with romantic problems.

Manager Osvaldo Zubeldia, who has since resigned from his position with the F.A., was particularly worried about his brilliant forward, Vicente de la Mata — for whom Barcelona and Inter-Milan are reported to have made big offers — when a leg had to be put in plaster for 10 days and, at the time of writing, it is not yet known whether an operation might be necessary.

Star half-back Rafael Albrecht broke an arm in training and this caused quite a stir, when it was discovered that no doctor was available at the time. Dr. Verna, who looks after the squad, had apparently gone to town on a shopping expedition! But Dr. Covaro, the chief medical officer to the F.A., defended his colleague by saying: "Your footballers are paid like film stars, but for a miserable fee of £12 10s. per month you expect Dr. Verna to be at your beck and call for 24 hours a day. £12 10s. for the services of a famous specialist, while £500 is paid for a soccer coach. In which century are we supposed to be living?" he added.

In addition to Zubeldia's problems, one of his goalkeepers, Norberto Andrada, decided to get engaged to a strip-tease dancer and had to be given special leave from the squad's training centre!

Following the F.A.'s failure to persuade the top clubs to admit a national side, playing as a team, in the current League championship a new compromise was reached. Members of the World Cup party train together for four days and one day with their club, while one day is free and another taken up with a League match.

A confidence trick—or simply no confidence?

ENGLAND'S 4-3 win over Scotland should not deceive anyone, except those optimists who seem obsessed with the ridiculous idea that 4-3-3 is some sort of fool-proof system which guarantees an England World Cup triumph.

Mr. Ramsey has said that England will win the World Cup. He did not say that England could or might — but will. To most English ears, unaccustomed to boastful predictions, such a proclamation must have sounded like heresy.

His 4-3-3 plan appears to be supported by some English club managers, about a dozen journalists and perhaps as many fans.

Just reflect on this thought for a moment: England, the motherland of soccer, playing at home before its own crowds, will adopt an ultra-defensive system. This England, beaten only three times by foreign opponents at home in 103 years of Association football, will attempt to capture the Jules Rimet trophy by using only three men in attack. There is confidence for you in the ability of your footballers representing a country with the largest professional playing resources in the world!

Do you wonder that Bela Guttmann, the former boss of Benfica, has said that an England World Cup victory would be a catastrophe for football? Surely he meant that this allegedly modern system — if allowed to succeed, would kill the game as a spectacle, and you don't have to look further than the miserable 8,738 crowd which turned out recently to watch Arsenal, the latest exponents of 4-3-3, against West Bromwich Albion.

I do not know if England will win the World Cup. Many years of following soccer all over Europe have taught me that it is wiser to concentrate on facts, rather than suppositions. And what are the facts: Ignoring the meaningless Home Internationals, let us consider England's last three meetings against foreign teams in this country. In each case I quote Brian James of the *Daily Mail*:

ENGLAND ... 2 AUSTRIA ... 3

"England got back into the lead on the hour with a goal created through the courage of full-back Cohen. He dived into a knot of players to help Greaves out, burst past two men to give the ball to Paine, and chased the winger's pass through into the Austrian area before pushing the ball sideways to Connelly to score."

ENGLAND ... 1 POLAND ... 1

"Right-back Cohen moved yet again up the wing and yet again drove across into the Poles' packed area. And it was the head of captain Moore which rose above them all to send the ball down and away from Szeja" (Polish 'keeper).

ENGLAND ... 1 WEST GERMANY... 0

"Cohen broke through the middle, three times slowed as though about to pass, three times moved suddenly on, and finally flung a ball to the far post where Hunt met it with his head. Tilkowski partly parried the down-header but it looked as though the ball was over even before the alert Stiles followed up to make sure."

First, three cheers for Cohen, but — if Mr. Ramsey's system provides for defenders to lay on the goals, while his forwards play ring-a-ring-a-roses to bemuse the opposition, then his plan must be the greatest revelation in soccer since goals were first invented, and I simply cannot wait until July to see if our experts will praise Mr. Ramsey — or bury him.

I know how much a World Cup triumph means to every soccer fan in this country.

But I cannot help a nagging feeling that Ramsey is playing ludo ... while the others are playing chess!

Feature compiled by ARTHUR ROTMIL

Double triumph for Maltese nationals

WHEN Malta's Association Football has reached a new low it is very encouraging to report that the Malta national team was able to achieve honour in the international field when they beat Libya in Tripoli by a solitary goal, 1-0, the same result achieved five weeks earlier in Malta against the same North African side.

Malta's team, made up of nine Sliema players and two from Hibernians, put up a magnificent show and dominated for long periods. However the referee was below standard and besides annulling another goal for Malta, had to abandon the game two minutes from the end because of the throwing of stones and other missiles from the Libyan crowd.

Deplorable scenes also took place recently in Malta during Association games when one national league match, between Sliema Wanderers and Valletta, had to be abandoned by the referee, whilst three other matches, Sliema v. Floriana, Valletta v. Birkirkara (both Malta F.A. League) and St. George's v. Melita (II Division League) came to an abrupt end when the respective teams of Floriana, Birkirkara and Melita walked off the field because either disagreeing with referee's decisions or because of missiles that were thrown by spectators.

Malta F.A. is to carry on with its policy of taking part in international activities whether these be matches for clubs or for the national team. This was made clear by the President, Mr. Eugene Bonello, M.B.E., during a programme on Malta television, "The Press wants to know", where sports journalists and commentators, Mr. Carmelo Costa, Mr. Robert DeCesare and the writer put several questions about Malta's participation in the international sphere.

MALTESE NEWS by REM SACCO

Direct TV transmission of international matches from the nearby Italian peninsula is still affecting Malta's league programme. Recently the Valletta v. Birkirkara League match had its time of kick-off changed from the afternoon to 10 o'clock in the morning because of direct TV transmission of France v. Italy in Paris.

The match of the day film shown on Saturday evening in U.K. is regularly being shown on Malta's TV the following Wednesday. However, the Malta fans and press are up in arms against the TV authorities because of their insistence of showing the film at a late hour in the night when at the same time there is always a sports programme on the Italian TV composed of European Cup matches. Italian and British fans in Malta resent the idea of having to give up one of these programmes.

Season suspensions

Disturbed at happenings mentioned above in connection with mass team walk-outs, the Malta F.A. Chairman called an urgent meeting of the Council with a view to discussing this grave situation of the game in Malta.

It was then decided to call an extraordinary general meeting, where it was then decided that besides loss of points and loss of gate money, the team which in future will be found guilty will be suspended for the remainder of the season, together with players and club officials involved in the incident.

Mr. Arthur Lentini and Mr. Paul Bonett (right) the honoured referees. (O.)

F.I.F.A. Badge for local referees

Mr. Arthur Lentini and Mr. Paul Bonett are the two other proud recipients of the F.I.F.A. badge, the highest honour awarded to those officials who have been included at least twice on the International panel of the Referees and also officiated at two full International matches in two years.

The other referee who was awarded this badge a year ago is Mr. Joe Cassar Naudi.

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DRAW FOR BIG CUP

AFRICA:

by NORMAN D. REICH

THE draw has been made for the seventh series of the Africa Cup competition — the continent's premier football tournament. A record number of 22 nations have entered. The final play-offs will be played in Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia, in November.

Ghana, the holders, and the hosts, Ethiopia, are exempted from the qualifying stages.

The draw is:

GROUP ONE: Senegal, Guinea, Liberia

GROUP TWO: Upper Volta, Algeria, Mali

GROUP THREE: Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Togo

GROUP FOUR:
sub-group 1 — Libya, United Arab Republic
sub-group 2—Kenya, Uganda

GROUP FIVE: Cameroun, Tunisia, Congo (Brazzaville)

GROUP SIX:
sub-group 1—Congo (Leopoldville), Sudan
sub-group 2—Tanzania, Mauritius

Ghana, Ethiopia and the six group winners will contest the play-offs. Addis Ababa was the venue for the 1962 finals and Ethiopia took full advantage of the altitude factor to win the trophy for the first time. They, along with Ghana, must be strongly fancied again.

Cock-a-hoop Ghana, after beating Tunisia in the 1965 final in Tunis, undertook a tour of East Africa on the way home to Accra. They thrashed Kenya in Mombasa 13-2 but amazingly were held to a 3-3 draw by virtually the same side a few days later in Nairobi. Next stop was Leopoldville for a triangular tournament involving the Congo-Brazzaville and the Congo-Leopoldville. Ghana beat each 3-0 to carry off the trophy. The Leopoldville side ended with a merited 4-1 victory over their neighbours.

Despite rumours to the contrary, Africa is not contemplating putting forward a candidate for the presidency of the F.I.F.A. It was suggested that Mr. Ohene Djan was "Africa's man" for the job. Mr. Djan himself ended the speculation. In a recent interview, he said: "We recognise that Europe leads the way in these matters. To advance a candidate at this stage would be premature."

Sir Stanley Rous, current president of F.I.F.A., has in fact won a tremendous amount of respect in Africa over the past year. He is likely to gain an *en-bloc* vote of confidence from the African states who are particularly impressed with his plan for reorganising the World Cup.

Sir Stanley has suggested that a Congress of F.I.F.A. should be held in Africa again. Tunis is considered a likely venue.

The early months of the year are usually quiet competitive times on the African continent. The northern countries are busy tying up the loose ends of their season and the south is getting ready to go. It is then an opportune time to take a more detailed look at South African soccer than is usually possible in these notes.

Highlands Park, the north Johannesburg club that is riding the crest of a wave, have captured two talented Brazilians, each with first division experience in Brazil. Santoro was signed from the Cape club, Hellenic, after player and club failed to come to terms. He was the lynch-pin of their side last season. When he played well, Hellenic did well, when he was off-form, they floundered. Walter, their new centre-forward, and Santoro have both been grafted into the Highlands side with complete success.

Understandably, Johannesburg's two remaining first division clubs, Southern Suburbs and Rangers, are anxious to switch some of the spotlight being played on Highlands their way, and have eagerly sought overseas players of star quality. Suburbs, last season placing their faith in home-grown youngsters, have made a complete about turn. They signed Bryan Orritt from Middlesbrough and Tommy Smith from Tottenham Hotspur and then expressed interest in

BRYAN ORRITT. (Larkin.)

Gerry Baker of Ipswich Town. Instead of paying out the reported fee of £20,000 for Baker, they settled for Arne Bjornstad, a strapping goalscoring ace from Boksburg for a large fee. Suburbs further strengthened their side by obtaining Schultz, Daniels and Bailey from relegated Brothers and Alan Varner (Durban City) and Mike Carroll (Highlands Park). Still, all Suburbs seem to be proving is that eleven parts do not make a team. Highlands thrashed them 5-0 in a league match.

Rangers have re-imported Beni Blenarui from Israel. He turned out for them in several games last season but his obvious talents were never used to full advantage in a struggling side. There are signs that Rangers aim to make more advantageous use of him this season.

The big transfer fuss of the new season, however, revolved around Durban City's Rhodesian-born forward, Bobby Chalmers. Birmingham City, the English League Second Division club, had expressed a great deal of interest in Chalmers, even to the extent of flying out two directors to watch him in action. However, Birmingham failed to beat the English season transfer deadline and decided to let the matter ride.

Durban United, City's big rivals, stepped in and after three weeks of speculation, signed the player for £10,000, exactly doubling the previous South African record.

Chalmers made an explosive début for his new club, scoring a splendid goal against East Rand United after only six minutes. United, with Port Elizabeth City, seem the only club that has the resources at present to challenge mighty Highlands Park. The United manager, Topper Brown, has made several astute buys during the close season. He signed Clive Hancock from Germiston Callies to plug the gaps in his defence. I rate Hancock as one of the two most effective centre-halves in the National Football League. Another wise deal was the signing of Frank McGuigan from Bloemfontein City.

This talented inside-forward came to Southern Africa from Blackpool four years ago and has matured tremendously in turning out for Salisbury City, Addington and Bloemfontein City. United also have Peter Baker, the ex-Tottenham player at full-back, the brothers Petersen, both of whom have played for Blackpool and the goalkeeper Arthur Lightening. The two Mann brothers, Ronnie and Errol, add thrust to a thrustful forward line. Even at this early stage of the season, Ronnie Mann looks in Willie McIntosh's (Highlands Park) bracket as the best pair of outside-lefts in the country.

Port Elizabeth City are again relying on most of their players from 1965. One of the unsung stars of South African soccer is undoubtedly the former Port Vale player, Stan Steele. It seems that whenever Steele plays in their side, City win, when he is not present, they toss points away. So it happened last year, so it is likely to happen this year. Steele is a brilliant distributor of the ball and above all, a deft tactician. Yet he has received little credit for his side's meteoric rise from the depths of the league to the élite. He is a player City cannot afford to be without in the months ahead.

● *Continued on page* 42

STRAW EDGE OF BALANCE

MAN IN THE MIDDLE'S VIEWS

By Sidney Clarkson

OLDER readers will recall a pre-war radio character called Syd Walker. He was a costermonger with a barrow — the forerunner of TV's Steptoe — who met life with a capital L. His spoken problems were well explained up to the point where there was a choice between right and wrong, or hurting the fewest number of people. At that point the programme would have a break for him to say, "What would you do, chums?"

I was forcibly reminded of the barrow-boy as I walked off the pitch after a well-played floodlit youth game. Though one-sided in score, both sets of lads had earned full 20 points for "sportsmanship". making way, so I thought, for the second game to follow that night, a club official came up to me and said, "We're all set to play, but no ref's turned up. Will you carry on for *us*? These were seniors (up to 21 years) whom I am not supposed to take, through reason of wearing spectacles. But they had turned out from other things (television, night school, cinema or bowling alley) and felt some loyalty to their groups. That was the crux for me. I finished my "overtime" that night at a quarter to ten with 140 minutes of hard running behind me, at my time of life!

Once a judge

"He who rides a tiger," says the motto, "can never dismount." And he who takes up judging any game will always find himself "in the saddle of judgment". Minds have to be made up from the very moment when the postcard comes which says, "Dear Sir,—Will you please referee the following match . . .?" During every game naturally arises the point when, in a split second, the ref must decide whether to stop the game or allow "advantage".

One well-known French referee has earned himself the honour of taking an international Rugby Union game at Twickenham. It is said of this foreigner that he was watching himself taking a club game, and in four minutes of film he saw 44 places where he could have blown his whistle for minor technical faults, but allowed the players to *enjoy* their efforts at play.

Another year?

Being a world-wide game, it may be said that soccer is played somewhere on this earth almost every day in the year. Mercifully, we enjoy a "close-season" even though planning decisions are being made behind the scenes for another year. The F.A. likes to count its "chickens" before they are matched, and thus asks all referees to register before the first of June for another season, under penalty of an enhanced registration fee. So whether a man takes games at Ibrox, Highbury or Hackney Wick the latter days of May see him having to make the decision of carrying on again.

Generally throughout the land, there is a demand which exceeds the supply of referees. But the individual at the season's end has the right to give or withhold his services. Overruling factors will be a man's fitness, or other demands on his energies and time; his progress in the "new feeder" system and the great question as to whether he is *enjoying* his matches. Let the dissenters and nigglers know this, that they by their attitudes, week by week, have saddened and sickened many a good man, so that now he has joined the great majority that on Saturdays do not stir out of the old rocking chair!

ISTVAN ZSOLT—top World Cup referee. (A.P.)

Less onus for refs?

In an ordinary (unextended season) it is obvious that the clubs with many Cup games, or European commitments, are going to have a crowded end of season if a spell of bad weather interferes with games. One cannot help feeling that some League referees could have taken a little risk to achieve general good of this last season had they been more enterprising. Let us quote an actual case. The popular secretary of Bradford City club, Jim Mellor, will support these details.

His club had an attractive Boxing Day game with Port Vale this year and in face of a hard frost their groundsmen worked on Sunday and Monday on the pitch. Six tons of sand — all they had — were spread to fill up small ruts, and after that, soil from the car-park was carted and scattered. I put in a voluntary hour alongside other available workers. No counter-attraction at Leeds for they were away. News came through that the Huddersfield Town game was off. This was the only game on that day in the West Riding. The Valley Parade club could have had a much-needed five figure gate. The Stoke side had telephoned earlier and were on their way hopefully. Not a scrap of ice was on the pitch though admittedly it was bone hard. But because one Liverpool referee was apprehensive, to use no stronger word, the game was postponed to a mid-week when a mere 3,000 saw the fixture. We do say, in the professional grade, that captains or managers, and groundsmen, will have to share the responsibility of deciding the possibility of play. Over to you, Football Association, and soon.

Uniformity

Concerning the appurtenances of the game, we have achieved a universal standard, which will be more apparent when we adopt the metric system. For instance the penalty spot is 11 metres from the goal line, and the posts are 7.32 metres high. But in the application of the laws there is a subtle difference between the English and the Continental application. Note how the crowds abroad whistle when the goalkeeper is charged even when holding the ball. Yet this individual could go blithely inside his area bouncing the ball every four yards *ad lib* to waste time when his side had got a goal in front.

By all accounts, that outspoken referee, Leo Horn, with 132 international match experience behind him, did reasonably suggest an annual conference of referees and officials to iron out such differences. Maybe the approach was not well-expressed or diplomatic (one can only go by hearsay). But at the moment of writing such a welcome meeting which could be staged this World Cup year, is still in the air and no Netherlands official has been invited to ref or line in the series 1966!

Barcelona, February

But one more structure in the edifice has been assembled (on paper) by the announcement of the list of 32 officials designated to rule the games. A little leven from Chile remains to leven the lump: Yamasaki of Peru, Schwinte of France and Dienst (Switzerland) evidently pleased in the last World Cup games and have been asked to come again along with the Spanish and Czechoslovak officials who have added status with experience. Well, in such needle sharp matches we shall need equally acute men in the middle and on the line. "History balances on a straw."

CASH CRISIS IS LOOMING ONCE AGAIN

by TOM JAGGER

BIG money will be talking big when the World Cup games are being staged in this country for the first time.

Everybody else's business will be taking a back seat while the top soccer countries fight their way forward to Wembley.

And as the fans keep the turnstiles clicking merrily, there will be record pay-outs to players and a small army of officials.

So it looks, at first glance, as if there is nothing wrong with the game over here. Everything in the garden seems rosy, and one can forgive folk from the rest of the world coming to that conclusion.

But it would be foolish kidding ourselves. The £20,000-plus "gates", which will be commonplace, really provide no correct indication of the state of soccer in England.

Wealthy

Perhaps one might be forgiven for thinking otherwise when the balance sheets of the few wealthy clubs show mighty impressive figures on the right side.

Unfortunately, there is another side to the picture. The side which really gives the low-down on the whole, disturbing position.

Here is the evidence in black and white. Let's face up to it:

- more than half the Football League's 92 clubs owe over £20,000
- more than 20 have adverse balances of over £25,000
- less than a dozen are in credit with their banks.

Bob Lord, Burnley's controversial chairman, drew attention to the true state of affairs when he reflected that very little business was done on the deadline signing date in March.

And many other senior officials are now underlining the fact that the majority of clubs have been forced to tighten their belts because of thinning crowds, leaving transfer business open mostly for just the handful with money to spare.

Actually, things are so bad in some quarters that there could be more clubs following Accrington Stanley and dropping out of the big scene within the next twelve months.

Halifax Town openly admit there is a grave risk of no more League soccer at their Shay ground next season, while Rochdale, Hartlepools, Barrow, Lincoln and Aldershot are just about existing at the moment.

That can be readily understood when one realises they are trying to survive on crowds as small as 4,000 or less.

Constant

Even the smallest club, with a professional playing staff of only 14, and its economy cut down to floor level, cannot manage on that, unless there is a constant, extra supply of cash from selling or from supporters.

For even a breadline organisation runs up fortnightly bills of £800, and a fortnightly home crowd of 4,000 would not pay up that much cash, let alone leave anything for wages in those summer months when grounds are closed.

What's to be done? Pools can be the answer when run efficiently, though the membership has to be big to enable a nice, fat cheque to be paid out to the parent club each month.

Many clubs are staying alive today with the aid of help from keen supporters, but far too many are going deeper and deeper into debt.

Honours

That is why it is sometimes a bit too tough backing a small club. Because one knows they are hardly ever likely to pick up one of the game's big honours, and cannot afford to keep their players when they find the right ones.

Yes, it's tough on the fans. And tough on the managers of these small outfits, too. For they have to talk players into signing-on for mere pittances in many instances, then try to keep them happy when they get fed up with playing in poor company.

The solution may be found eventually in a nationwide pool organised by the League itself.

That could provide every needy club with a weekly windfall of £1,000 or more for immediate needs, then extra allowances for improving accommodation.

I have been discussing that idea with a prominent club chairman who only some years ago had set his face against football having anything to do with pools.

He is right behind the whole idea, and ready to convert others to his line of thought.

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CROWD FIGURES TO INDICATE INTEREST

World Cup group qualifying attendances by Gordon Jeffery

THE official figures of the attendances at the 127 matches played in the World Cup Qualifying Competition have now been released. They make interesting reading with their insight into the overall interest in different countries, the extent to which that interest varies with the success or failure of their national team, the prospects for future competitions as, for example, the re-fashioned European Nations Cup, and so on.

And perhaps most interesting of all is the comment they make on the present, fairly generally held, assumption that "friendlies" are non-starters so far as spectator appeal is concerned and should be replaced by competitive International matches. There is no more important competition than the World Cup yet some of the attendances, even in Europe, were pitifully, almost ludicrously, small and probably much smaller than the same pairing of countries would attract in a friendly!

The reason is, of course, that competitive matches mainly attract when they have an effect upon the ultimate victory in the competition. Thus any knock-out competition match — as in "genuine" Cup compared with League competitions — has a meaning that can be shared by all spectators when the final whistle blows. Only occasionally is this true of a league match—even the very small *three*-nation league of many of the qualifying competition groups. Unless the last scheduled matches brought together two nations with a remaining interest in the ultimate leadership of the group, the general pattern was for the early matches to attract hopeful, and therefore good, crowds; for decisive mid-way matches to get the highest attendances; and for the end matches to hold, as I have suggested, less interest than if they had been non-competitive meetings.

There are exceptions to this broad pattern of course—generally when a nation not yet in the mainstream of International football in Europe had a home match against "strangers". That, for example, is what happened in Group One where the two highest attendances were for the final two matches of the competition proper when Israel, the home country, had only a slight chance of success. Even in Tel Aviv, nonetheless, there was a substantial difference between the attendances at the two matches played within less than a fortnight of each other.

This group is worth looking at in some detail. It opened with Belgium at home to Israel in Brussels. Attendances at the Heysel Stadium are not large with the Belgians seeming to reflect more the poor spectator support of their western neighbours France than the remarkably large gates of their eastern neighbours Holland. Back in 1963 I have a note of *estimated* attendances in Brussels of 30,000 to see Yugoslavia in the Nations Cup, and of 55,000 to see Brazil—and to applaud that startling 5-1 Belgium victory! Visits of the Netherlands and France a year later only attracted 10,000 attendances and by that yardstick the attendance for the kick-off match in Group One was fairly good—21,699. A bit disappointing by comparison with the estimated crowds for the 1963 matches against Yugoslavia and Brazil but it could be argued that Israel seemed the lesser of Belgium's opponents and that Belgium's collection of a couple of points was felt to be a formality. In fact they did only beat the Israelis by a single goal!

Precise figure

It was next the turn of Bulgaria to entertain Israel. Looking back I find that for most of their home matches in Sofia, Bulgaria are reported to play before a 50,000 crowd. Maybe this is bad estimating: maybe some Press official at the ground has that stock figure to quote whenever he is asked about the attendance and the precise figure is always lower. It is unlikely that it would often be as low as 18,770 and that was the number who turned up to watch Bulgaria (1962 finalists remember) set off on the hopeful road to Wembley for the July 1966 finals.

Bulgaria, like Belgium, duly won their opening home match against Israel—and did so much more convincingly than had the Belgians. The Bulgarians won by four goals to nil which, I would have thought, augured well for the attendance for the match against Belgium a fortnight later. Yet only 25,380 turned up to watch! Bulgaria won and a month later travelled to Brussels to play what was obviously a vital match for the home country. If Belgium failed to win at home against Bulgaria, then the Bulgarians needed only to escape defeat when playing away against Israel to gain a place in the finals. Surely such a situation would have brought fifty or sixty thousand fans flocking to the match in Brussels? There is nothing sure about these puzzling attendances — only a derisory 13,780 turned up to cheer Belgium's 5-0 win.

Both Belgium and Bulgaria had collected four points from three matches: Israel had nil points from two matches. Playing at home they could, if they beat both Belgium and Bulgaria, get four points and make a triple-tie of the group matches. In that hopeful frame of mind their fans showed much greater interest than had Belgian or Bulgarian nationals, and 48,355 watched the first match in Tel Aviv against Belgium. The visitors won and the Israelis were out of the race. Yet 28,213 turned up ten days later to watch the game against Bulgaria—more than twice as many as had watched Belgium's vital home match against Bulgaria!

Finally to complete the Group One picture—the play-off match between Bulgaria and Belgium was played at Florence in Italy before the lowest of all the Group One attendances—11,659. Thanks to the two matches played in Tel Aviv the average for the seven matches played in the group crawled up to 23,979.

That was not quite the lowest average attendance figure for matches in a group—that dismal record went to Group Three where the average for the 12 matches played was 23,471. This was, of course, a four-nation group and the bigger the group the more matches are played that have little bearing on the leadership. In addition the four countries included two, Luxembourg and Norway, who just have not got the population potential for large attendances. France has the potential but never the fulfilment and Yugoslavian attendances are fickle and unpredictable.

Within the range of their own normal experience both Luxembourg and Norway could be satisfied with crowds of 17,536 and 30,249 respectively for their matches against France. The Yugoslavian crowds — all three matches were played in the capital Belgrade — were disappointing: 22,166 for the opening match against Luxembourg; 23,906 for the still very important one against France; and 17,538 for the last match against Norway when one day before France, by beating Luxembourg, had made sure of winning the group. France with all three matches topping 30,000 did well by French standards and the 36,546 who watched them play Yugoslavia in Paris was the highest in the group. The lowest was 8,130 for the Luxembourg–Norway encounter.

Absence

On the basis of three-nation groups (six matches) showing more sustained interest than the four-nations (12 matches); and looking for the absence of countries with low attendance histories, it should not be difficult to name the group that, overwhelmingly, attracted the highest average attendance—but only one in five of acquaintances I asked did get it right. Pause now—if you feel like trying your own judgment!

It was, in fact, Group Six where the six matches played by Hungary, East Germany and Austria between them were watched by 457,831 spectators for an average of 76,305! The aggregate attendance here was more than that of all except one of the four-nation groups where twice the number of matches were played! Oddly Group Six kicked off with what was to prove to be

One of the best attended World Cup qualifying matches was the Russia-Wales match in Moscow. Graham Williams (left) shows his disgust as Russia score their second goal. (Planet.)

the lowest of the six attendances when 57,312 in Vienna watched the home country Austria share two goals with East Germany but that lowest attendance in Group Six was higher than the highest attendance in four of the other eight groups!

Big crowd

The highest attendance in the group was for the second match played in Leipzig between East Germany and Hungary—98,765! Austria's home match with Hungary followed and this meeting of ancient rivals—the earliest of the continental European countries to regularly play each other—saw the Viennese attendance soar to 70,067, Hungary's two home matches, both played in Budapest, followed with attendances of 71,950 and 73,153 watching home wins against Austria and East Germany. The latter win made Hungary certain group winners but nonetheless there was another huge crowd at Leipzig to watch East Germany's final match against Austria—86,584!

It is worth comparing that East German attendance when their cause was hopeless with the Czechoslovak attendances in Group Four. Portugal had kicked off in that group with home and away wins against Turkey—neither match could have awoken much interest since there were only 33,237 at Lisbon and 27,625 at Ankara. The four points collected by the Portuguese, however, did put Czechoslovakia on the spot when, in the third match, they entertained Eusebio and company at Bratislava—not Sofia as a slip of the pen has it in F.I.F.A.'s printed record. The attendance was reasonable—56,975, but the result discouraging to an extent that, judging by the later attendances, many Czechs immediately accepted defeat! Yet it was only by a single goal that Portugal had won.

It was again by a single goal that the Czechs lost their next match—away to Rumania, and with Portugal next winning at home to Rumania, the Czech position was becoming difficult by the time the Rumanians visited them in Prague. Portugal had eight points with two matches to play: Rumania had four with three to play: Czechoslovakia had nil with four to play. But two of their four were against Turkey and a third against Portugal. Portugal's other outstanding match was away to Rumania where it was likely they would be hard-pressed to win. The Czechs' cause was not, in fact, hopeless and, in retrospect, we know now that had they won instead of only drawing later in Lisbon they would probably have gained a play-off—I say probably rather than certainly because the final Rumania–Portugal result might have been different from two-nil for the home country had Portugal needed a point from the match.

In Prague nonetheless in September 1965 only 7,324 bothered to watch the match against Rumania when qualification was still possible. Striking a line from that attendance I suppose one should not be surprised about what happened when the Turks came to Brno two months later—and three weeks after the Czechs' goalless draw in Porto. Qualification was now impossible but five out of a possible six points from Rumania (home), Turkey (away) and Portugal (away) were surely performances that offered enough encouragement for the future to have brought more than 3,133 fans to watch the match at Brno!

This was not quite the lowest attendance in the European group matches. That doubtful distinction went to Cyprus who had 2,716 fans at Famagusta to watch the match against Sweden. (At Nicosia a week later the attendance rose to 3,412 for the match against West Germany.) In fourth lowest place—above the two Cyprus home matches and the one between the Czechs and Turkey—was Wales' final home match against Denmark at Wrexham. The official attendance was 4,839.

Assuaged

British feelings about that can be assuaged by noting that the top two attendances—and the only two that ran into six figures—were recorded by Scotland with 107,580 watching the match against Poland, and 100,393 the one against Italy. There were only (the word is used comparatively) 54,442 for Scotland's first home match against Finland but their total for the three matches remains slightly higher than the Soviet Union's 86,015 against Wales, 84,134 against Denmark and 79,641 against Greece. The "estimates" of attendances at these Moscow matches was 100,000—which illustrates the gap between estimated and actual attendances in many cases.

A final oddity—in the small Group Nine where Syria's withdrawal made it a straight fight between the Republic of Ireland and Spain, the first match in Dublin was watched by 40,772 but in Seville only 29,452 turned up to see Spain earn a play-off. Yet this play-off in Paris attracted 35,731—more than for Spain's home match and only 800 less than the best Paris attendance for a French tie!

World Cup Qualifying Competition Attendances

Group One: BULGARIA, Belgium, Israel: Average 23,979. Highest: Israel v. Belgium at Tel Aviv: 48,355. Lowest: Bulgaria v. Belgium at Florence (Play-off): 11,659.

Group Two: W. GERMANY, Sweden, Cyprus: 29,933. Highest: W. Germany v. Sweden at Berlin: 70,299. Lowest: Cyprus v. Sweden at Famagusta: 2,716.

Group Three: FRANCE, Yugoslavia, Luxembourg, Norway: 23,471. Highest: France v. Yugoslavia at Paris: 36,546. Lowest: Luxembourg v. Norway at Luxembourg: 8,130.

Group Four: PORTUGAL, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Turkey: 29,071. Highest: Czechoslovakia v. Portugal at Bratislava: 56,975. Lowest: Czechoslovakia v. Turkey at Brno: 3,133.

Group Five: SWITZERLAND, N. Ireland, Netherlands, Albania: 31,575. Highest: Netherlands v. N. Ireland at Rotterdam: 61,954. Lowest: N. Ireland v. Albania at Belfast: 16,017.

Group Six: HUNGARY, Austria, East Germany: 76,305. Highest: E. Germany v. Hungary at Leipzig: 98,765. Lowest: Austria v. East Germany at Vienna: 57,312.

Group Seven: USSR, Denmark, Wales, Greece: 37,998. Highest: USSR v. Wales at Moscow: 86,015. Lowest: Wales v. Denmark at Wrexham: 4,839.

Group Eight: ITALY, Scotland, Poland, Finland: 49,803. Highest: Scotland v. Poland at Glasgow: 107,580. Lowest: Finland v. Poland at Helsinki: 7,859.

Group Nine: SPAIN, Rep. of Ireland: 35,318. Highest: Rep. Ireland v. Spain at Dublin: 40,772. Lowest: Spain v. Rep. Ireland at Seville: 29,452.

West German Newsletter

by ARTHUR ROTMIL

Fine form shown here

WITH World Cup preparations entering their final and decisive stage, the attention of German soccer followers was focused on the national side's second outing of the year, against Holland in Rotterdam, on March 23.

Apart from the trial game with Dukla Prague (0-2), their first serious meeting ended in that unhappy 0-1 defeat by England at Wembley, which many experts here considered unlucky and some even unjustified.

All German observers, including manager Helmut Schön, were firmly convinced that the disallowed goal "scored" by Heiss in the 75th minute, was a perfectly good one, claiming that the Dutch linesman was some 60 yards away at the time and could not possibly have judged that the ball had crossed the line, before the centre was made.

Several soccer writers described the match as a "rehearsal without the main cast", hinting no doubt at the absence of the Italian "exiles" and suggesting that Schön would continue his quest for a winning combination.

True enough, for the game with Holland six men were left out from the team which lost to England and in addition, some positional changes were made. Only one member of the attack we saw at Wembley—centre-forward Held—retained his place. The new right wing was formed by 29-year-old Albert Brülls, who was released for this match by his Italian club Brescia and restored to the national side after an absence of four years. He was partnered by the famous Uwe Seeler, returning after injury, which has kept him out of the last three internationals. Wolfgang Overath was recalled at inside-left, while the wing position went to the only new cap, Lothar Emmerich, the League's top marksman.

Franz Beckenbauer dropped back to right-half, allowing Willi Schulz and Wolfgang Weber to become central defenders. Horst Höttges took over at right-back and Günter Bernard—who was promised this game a long time ago—replaced Hans Tilkowski in goal.

And so, exactly a month after the Wembley date, this German eleven lined up in 4-2-4 before a capacity crowd of 65,000, including some 10,000 German supporters, in the Feyenoord stadium at Rotterdam:

Bernard; Höttges (both Werder Bremen), Schulz (Hamburg S.V.), Weber (F.C. Cologne), Lorenz (Werder Bremen); Beckenbauer (Bayern Munich), Overath (F.C. Cologne); Brülls (AC Brescia), Seeler (Hamburg S.V.), Held (Borussia Dortmund), Emmerich (Borussia Dortmund).

The game soon exploded into action, for after only seven minutes Held created an opening and team captain, Seeler, fired in a thunderbolt of a shot from the edge of the penalty area into the top corner of the net. German fans leapt to their feet to acclaim their hero, for this was Uwe at his best, scoring with a characteristic "bombenschuss", as they call it. The excitement had barely died down, when Emmerich celebrated his début with a glorious header to put Germany two up after only 15 minutes' play. The Dutch pulled back a goal through Swart but then, the tall, elegant Beckenbauer, having exchanged passes with Overath, sent in a scorching shot to make the score 3-1 at the interval.

In the 48th minute Nunninga reduced the arrears for Holland but almost immediately the brilliant Beckenbauer collected a pass from Lorenz and smashed the ball home to establish the final score of 4-2.

A fine performance this, particularly by the German forwards who appeared in this formation for the first time. No wonder Helmut Schön wore a big smile and he still holds two aces, both in Italy at the moment but not available for this match because of club commitments. They are world class defender Karl-Heinz Schnellinger (A.C. Milan) and perhaps the greatest of all present-day German forwards—Helmut Haller (Bologna) who both—together with Brülls, will be joining the World Cup squad when the Italian season is over.

HORST HOTTGES. (Metelmann 2.)

Six games are scheduled before the party embarks for England next July. After meeting Hungary's national side who will appear under the guise of a Budapest XI on April 19 at Bremen, the Germans will play full internationals against Eire in Dublin on May 4, Northern Ireland in Belfast on May 7 and Rumania in Ludwigshafen on June 1. Next, a trial game in Augsburg on June 19, against as yet, unnamed, opponents and finally an international with Yugoslavia in Hannover on June 23.

At club level, German teams enjoyed mixed fortunes in the various European competitions. Borussia Dortmund did well in reaching the semi-finals of the Cup-Winners' Cup and played brilliantly in London to defeat West Ham by 2-1 and 3-1 in the second leg at home.

But in the Champions Cup, Werder Bremen, having disposed of unfancied Apoel Nicosia (Cyprus) on a 10-0 aggregate, fell to Partizan of Belgrade on a joint score of 1-3. The return in Bremen was a rough-house with three players sent off—as already reported in earlier issues of WORLD SOCCER—but at least this match prompted an amazing sporting gesture from dozens of German soccer fans, who actually sent telegrams and letters, some with mass-signatures, to the Yugoslav champions, apologising for their team's brutal play and the crowd's bad behaviour!

Out of Fairs

In the Fairs Cup, Nürnberg lost to Everton (aggregate 1-2), Cologne went out to Ujpest-Dozsa (aggregate 3-6), while Hannover were extremely unlucky, for after holding Barcelona to a 3-3 aggregate at the end of the third game, they lost the tie on a toss of a coin! Only 1860 Munich reached the quarter-finals before losing to Chelsea on a joint score of 2-3.

On the domestic scene. the DFB-Cup favourites are Bayern Munich who oppose Hamburger SV in the quarter-finals. Other pairings are: Werder Bremen v. 1 F.C. Kaiserslautern, 1 F.C. Nürnberg v. St. Pauli (leaders of the regional Nord-Liga) and Meidericher SV v. Karlsruher S.C.

The outstanding feature of the League championship was the early domination of the Munich clubs. Newly promoted Bayern made the running first but then 1860 took over and led during 14 successive rounds before being overtaken by Borussia Dortmund, who at the time of writing, look the best bet for the title. They have a fine goalkeeper in Hans Tilkowski—Germany's footballer of the year—and a great forward line with fast, direct wingers in Reinhard Libuda and Lothar Emmerich, plus two experienced inside men in Aki Schmidt and Willi Sturm but above all Germany's new hope in centre-forward Sigi Held.

NATIONAL LEAGUE as on April 6

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P.
Borussia Dort.	28	17	9	2	61	25	43
Bayern Munich	28	18	5	5	63	29	41
1860 Munich	27	16	7	4	56	32	39
F.C. Cologne	28	16	5	7	58	31	37
Werder Bremen	28	17	1	10	60	36	35
F.C. Nuremberg	28	12	9	7	45	36	33
Meidericher S.V.	28	12	6	10	62	37	30
Eint. Frankfurt	28	12	5	11	51	40	29
Hamburger S.V.	28	10	7	11	52	41	27
Eint. Brunswick	28	9	8	11	37	41	26
Bor. Mön.-Glad.	27	9	8	10	49	51	26
V.f.B. Stuttgart	28	10	6	12	33	36	26
Hannover '96'	27	10	4	13	48	43	24
Kaiserslautern	27	7	8	12	32	47	22
Karlsruher S.C.	28	8	5	15	30	60	21
Schalke 04	28	7	6	15	21	50	20
Bor. Neunkirchen	28	6	4	18	26	68	16
Tasmania Berlin	28	1	3	24	11	92	5

UNFAIR TO THE NEW MANAGER

SCOTTISH NEWS by JOHN STONE

SCOTLAND has long been famed for its laments, those sad, melancholy songs with a sound and a feeling all of their own.

The majority were, of course, written long before Denis Law, John Greig and Jim Baxter were ever heard of. Now, however, the time seems ripe for some 20th century song-writer to capture the mood — with the "Lament of Scottish football".

For never can there have been a season like this for moans, groans and heartbreaks in Scotland's game. There was the failure to qualify for the finals of the World Cup this summer; then, worse still, the hammering by the Auld Enemy, England, at Hampden on April 2.

This 4-3 defeat broke Scotland's grip on these matches, sent their spirits nose-diving even further, proved the very worst type of start for new international team manager John Prentice . . . and sent England's World Cup stock soaring.

But why blame Prentice, as some stupid fans I heard were doing as they left the scene of the Hampden disaster?

Certainly the Scots — all Scots, on and off the field — had cause to regret this result, but in blaming Prentice, the man given control virtually at the 11th hour, they are talking utter nonsense.

This tall, sturdy Scot with the broad square shoulders knew exactly what he was taking on to those strong shoulders when he accepted the S.F.A.'s four-year contract.

Just as he did when he accepted the manager's job with the Second Division side, Arbroath, and made a success of that. And just as he did with Clyde, a side he steered back to the First Division and established the club in that sphere for years to come, playing the type of football Shawfield fans can be proud of.

No, Prentice is not to blame for this defeat at the hands of England!

He has still three years and 11 months of his four-year contract to run. Give the man a chance.

As a player, Prentice was always strong and forceful. Hearts, Rangers and Falkirk — the latter he captained to a Scottish Cup final replay victory over Kilmarnock — all discovered that to their benefit.

He will obviously bring the same force and authority to the task he has been chosen for . . . to lead Scotland back to soccer's big-time.

This result may not have been an encouraging start in his giant-sized job, but at least it does let Prentice start right from the bottom.

It would be a braver Scot than me who would gamble on John Prentice failing.

Another former Ranger who found his way into management, Stirling Albion boss Sammy Baird, has also been confronted of late with troubles.

Particularly that move a few weeks ago that threatened to put Albion out of the premier league whether they in fact were relegated with Hamilton Acas or not.

The move was rejected . . . but only just . . . otherwise there would have been three divisions next season, a first of 16, and two others of 12.

Baird, whose career bears a resemblance with Prentice in as much he is very much the younger-school type of manager, and has also had experience with Rangers and Clyde (Baird also as a player with Preston North End), made no bones about his delight at the rejection of that proposal, by 20 votes to 17.

Baird told me from his office at Annfield — not Scotland's finest stadium, but one at which improvements are constantly being considered to bring it into line with the majority of contemporaries — that his only objection to the motion was on the basis of the time factor involved.

"Had they come out at the start of the season and said the bottom four clubs were to be relegated, that would have been fair with everyone.

"Instead, it was decided that Hamilton Acas and ourselves, along with the next two bottom clubs, or the two who finished bottom, would be demoted. That to us was simply unfair."

Baird, who has mellowed considerably from the fiery, flaxen-haired inside-forward of yore in his near-three years at Stirling's helm, was still adamant that the S.F.A. were using his club, or rather, *abusing* them.

"If we are relegated on merit, I will have no grouse. But to be slung out at a minute's notice is what I, and all Stirling, objected to," he stressed.

As I write, the relegation position is still far from settled. Hamilton Acas will need a double miracle to stay up. That takes care of one of the two bottom places. But naming the other likely candidates is virtually impossible.

If Stirling Albion have managed to fight for their survival and succeeded by the time the curtain finally falls, I say: "Good luck to them."

This, I know, is an attitude many in Scotland condemn. They have their own opinions, I — and Albion's directors — are entitled to ours.

No one wants more, has pleaded for more than I have in these very columns for a move to bring new life to the old game of soccer in Scotland.

Why can't this self-same formula, which did win 17 of the 37 clubs' votes, be used next season? But let the S.F.A. use an "Early Warning System"; tell the clubs it will happen, and those who are relegated can have no complaint.

Make it equally clear to those clubs left in the Second Division next season — and nobody can safely bet which two are coming up this time! — that there will be no promotion for them in the 1966–67 season.

The prize for them would then merely be that the top eight clubs in the division would be joined in Division Two by the First Division's four relegated sides.

That would leave the remaining 11, the bottom dogs of the league, to be joined by one more club from non-league to form the final, Third Division.

The issue seems as straightforward as that.

A great effort by Denis Law (8) against England at Hampden Park. (M.P.I.)

ERIC BATTY looking ahead

EUROPEAN HONOURS BEGGING

SINCE the formation of the European Cup, the series has been dominated by teams from the four European Latin countries. This is indisputable, and hardly surprising since the competition was born out of the success achieved by the Latin Cup, but one by one the giants have fallen out of the "big-league" race. First to go were France, who long ago barred foreign players and thus created a clear field for Stade de Reims. Their forward looking policy, based on French-born stars of quality, cost big money and when the supply of money dried up, Reims collapsed.

Next to go were the Spaniards, whose F.A. barred foreigners who were not of legitimate Spanish descent more than four years ago, and thus made it impossible for Real Madrid to engage successors for Di Stefano and Puskas even if the club had wanted to, and ultimately this led to Spain's decline as a soccer power. Meanwhile, the Portuguese—always the poor relations amongst the Latin quartette—were producing a fine Benfica side, who temporarily held the stage while Inter were building up for their challenge under the guidance of Helenio Herrera.

Today it seems clear that they have all withdrawn, unwilling or unable to go on spending, and leaving FC Internazionale the new masters of Europe. If things go well for Inter it seems likely that they will go on to attain their ambition, which is to equal the feat of Real Madrid or maybe even better it. But if they should fail, if Herrera should quit or be sacked; if President Angelo Moratti should withdraw his tremendous financial support, and if ultimately, Inter are unable to find the players they need to maintain their bid ... what then?

It may well be that Inter will earn a place in the history of the game, as the last of the super-teams, and the big question to me is "who comes next?". As I see it, the English game is being given an open invitation along with the West Germans, the Belgians and the Central Europeans of Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Yugoslavia, all countries who have provided teams which challenged but could not threaten the supremacy of the Latins.

The chances are, however, that it will be the English who inherit Inter's title when they finally abdicate, for the root-causes which have undermined the strength of the Latin countries are already threatening the game in the other countries I've mentioned as possible candidates. First, however, one must understand why the giants have failed.

The difference between the big clubs and those who struggle for survival has always been "class" and this in most cases has stemmed from money. Real Madrid, AC Milan, CF Barcelona and Reims all bought class players, while Benfica alone found "class" and polished it. Either way can be equally effective, but class—real class—must be found one way or the other.

Nobby Stiles the Manchester United wing-half (left) appears to be helping Liverpool centre-forward Ian St. John as he races across to clear danger. Both clubs look capable of producing the required ingredients for success in Europe. (P.A.1.)

The class of Real Madrid came from Di Stefano, Puskas, Kopa, in that order of importance, while others bought at great expense included Santamaria, Didi, Canario, Rial and Simonsson. All foreigners, and though one or two never made the grade, they were all costly. Real fell, when they found Di Stefano was past his best and they could not replace him for three reasons:

1. President Santiago Bernabeu decided to devote the club's resources to the building of a dream—Real's Sports City.

2. The Spanish F.A. barred the indiscriminate signing of foreign players.

3. The "class" players Real needed were by now in short supply.

CF Barcelona might have succeeded Real Madrid but failed because their directors decided instead to dismiss Helenio Herrera after a temporary set-back. Champions of Spain two years in a row, CFB had a wealth of talent to match that of Real, including Kubala, Kocsis, Villaverde, Martinez and Evaristo, all foreigners, and Suarez—Spanish-born, but still expensive. At the time of Herrera's dismissal CFB were also in financial difficulties which even now have not been resolved. Most of their problems revolved around their inability to sell their old home, the Estadio Las Corts, and now more than five years later they are still saddled with two grounds and big debts. Their elimination from the big race was accelerated by the departure of Herrera but it would have come anyway for three reasons:

1. The club's inability to sell Las Corts and resolve their financial difficulties.

2. The Spanish F.A. barred the indiscriminate signing of foreign players which they would ultimately have needed.

3. These "class" players are now very hard to find.

The same three reasons led to the downfall of Real Madrid and CF Barcelona and precisely the same reasons were responsible for the decline of Reims. In their case, President Henri Germain decided he could no longer afford to carry the club single-handed and made no attempt to replace Kopa, Fontaine, Piantoni and Jonquet and with the withdrawal of his wholehearted support Reims found they could not sign foreigners because of their F.A.'s ruling, could not find adequate replacements amongst French-born players and could not afford them anyway.

Benfica, who came later, finally collapsed for much the same reasons. Never a really wealthy club, they built their team through a mixture of good fortune in finding "class" players and shrewd polishing by Bela Guttmann, but when the crunch came it was found that Germano, Coluna and Augusto were past their best and could not be replaced because:

1. The Portuguese Government have prevented Benfica making real money when they might have, by fixing admission prices.

2. The club policy is against foreign players (unlike neighbours Sporting).

3. The players Benfica need now would be very hard to find even if the foreign ban were lifted and the money was available.

to next season and its most open and mundane competition

The only two other clubs to make a really determined bid for the European crown were the Milano teams, AC Milan and Inter. Milan came first, finally achieved their ambition in 1963 and then found themselves unable to maintain their challenge because:

1. Their millionaire President Andrea Rizzoli withdrew his financial support after carrying the club for several years.

2. The F.A. had introduced a ban on foreigners.

3. The players Milan needed were already in short supply.

The decline of all the big challengers has stemmed from the same three reasons, and Inter, the last of the giants, have earned and maintained their position because they have so far overcome all the difficulties which have shattered their rivals. They have been able to ...

1. Retain financial stability through the wealth of President Angelo Moratti.

2. Beat the "foreign" ban by engaging Suarez and Jair before it fell and recruiting Peiro who was already in Italy with Torino.

3. Find and develop replacements and reserves from amongst junior clubs in Italy.

Inter have succeeded where the others failed ... so far, but what does the future hold? Will Signor Moratti finally withdraw? Will Herrera be able to replace Suarez if the "foreign" ban is not lifted and indeed will he be able to find and afford such a player, bearing in mind that the available talent is now spread very thin?

Suarez is certainly the key to Inter's hopes, for he does for Inter what Di Stefano did for Real Madrid, and prone to injury anyway, a lengthy absence from the Inter team could lead to their failure and perhaps the departure of Moratti and Herrera. Inevitably it will come at some time in the not-too-distant future and when it does, it seems unlikely that France, Spain, Portugal or Italy will be able to raise a real challenger. In addition to, or rather woven around, the three central problems are national factors making this unlikely.

The French game has been beset by an economic crisis for years, and with small gates and high costs there is not one club in France who could make a real challenge. In Italy the game is being almost taxed out of existence by the Italian equivalent of an "Entertainments" Tax on football tickets, and the Portuguese Government strictly controls all prices, including football tickets, in a bid to halt inflation.

This leaves only Spain without a major economic hindrance, but Spain, like Portugal, is still very much a poor country. There are a handful of wealthy men, and while many of them are already board members of futbol clubs none of them appear to have the necessary ambition and the willingness to pledge their millions.

Willing

Amongst the possible challengers for Inter's crown there are none on the continent who could and would be willing to overcome the three main problems which have undermined the giants. RSC Anderlecht "might" but they are dedicated to an all-Belgian policy and little more than part-timers anyway. The same applies to Standard Liege, whose president once seemed willing to spend his personal fortune but changed his mind after manager Geza Kalocsai returned to Hungary, and the Standard team fell back.

In West Germany there are several possibles including Borussia Dortmund, whom we recently saw close up; Munchen 1860 and Bayern Munchen. All three have improved enormously but none are really big, none are propped up by a millionaire with football ambitions, and of them all Bayern Munchen—talented and young—seem the most promising. At the moment, however, the DFB prevents a Real Inter-type club through its policies of maximum wage, maximum transfer and signing-on fees, and at least until these problems are overcome the Germans will not win a permanent niche in the big game.

The same kind of problems have certainly restrained the Czechs, Hungarians and Yugoslavs, and while Honved, Dukla, Red Star, Ferencvaros, Sparta and Partizan have all produced very good teams and done relatively well they are all either "amateur" or poorly paid part-timers. To challenge the best, there is no doubt that clubs in these countries would have to become full-time professionals, and while pressures have built up in all three countries Government opposition is adamant and all-powerful.

Captains Ron Harris (left of Chelsea) and Peter Grosser of TSV Munchen 1860 exchange pennants before their Fairs Cup match at Stamford Bridge. (Baron.)

This leaves only the British game in with a real chance of taking over when Inter abdicate, and in Ireland (and Eire) as well as Wales I can see no challenger. In Scotland there could be, particularly amongst the wealthy clubs in Glasgow and Edinburgh, but the Scots have been slow to modernise and as they illustrated against England recently are still playing a game which the continentals abandoned more than a decade ago.

For the moment then, the initiative lies with England, and fortunately there are several clubs moving in the right direction. Amongst the more promising I would name Liverpool, Chelsea, West Ham, Manchester United and Leeds who have all done well this season in the international tournaments.

They have succeeded because they have in varying degrees achieved financial stability (which is a must) and a modern method of playing which is a super-priority, but I hasten to add, these two factors are not enough. The opportunity is there, and what these clubs have already achieved indicates that they "could" take over the leadership of the European game but each team still lacks something!

Method

Liverpool ... have the method but lack the class of a Suarez or Di Stefano.

Manchester United ... have the class but have only just begun to discipline it and add the method.

Chelsea ... have the method and plenty of promise, but they too lack the class that only a Di Stefano can add. Of all their youngsters I see only Osgood as a possible "master".

West Ham ... have shown it all and are halfway there with Byrne and Peters, but they have weaknesses only time or money can remedy.

Leeds United ... like Liverpool, have the squad and the method but they also lack the master craftsman around whom a great side must be built.

At present there is still a tendency to make up in strength, courage and determination what we lack in class. If this "blind-spot" can be overcome; if we can find the modern equivalent of the Mannion and Carter—and I am positive this is possible if the clubs will go for skill and intelligence instead of pace and strength, the English game can regain its pre-war position as leaders of the world-game.

Cup semi-final scramble in the Crusaders (striped shirts) goal with Linfield pressing. Linfield won 2-0. (M.P.I.)

SURELY THE LAST WORD CITY ?

IRISH NEWS by COLIN McALPIN

THE Derry City – European Cup–I.F.A.–E.U.F.A. tangle finally ground to a halt towards the end of March with the news that the Londonderry club had been fined 2,000 Swiss francs (£150) and suspended from the European Cup for three years for failing—or refusing point-blank—to play a second leg to their tie against the Belgium Champions, Anderlecht.

This refusal came after the I.F.A. had suggested to the E.U.F.A. that Derry City's ground — Corporation-owned Brandywell Road—was not suitable for European football. Derry objected and there started a long, dismal battle between the club and local authority over the ban. It ended when Derry City refused to play their "home" games anywhere else but at Brandywell. After being beaten 9-0 at Anderlecht's ground, Derry withdrew from the competition rather than play their Northern Ireland tie outside of Londonderry.

Until the fine was made known, Derry officials spoke in terms of their club withdrawing from the Irish League. For the week leading up to the announcement of the fine the newspapers—both in Londonderry and in Belfast—were full of stories on the possible withdrawal of the club from local soccer.

On March 18, it was reported in a Londonderry newspaper that Mr. Joe Williamson, Derry's chairman, was considering asking his board of directors to take the club from the Irish League and "leave senior football in this part of the world to Belfast". This suggestion of a withdrawal was made in case the fine turned out to be a heavy one.

Mr. Williamson, a man who holds the Irish Football Association totally to blame for the whole sorry mess, also pointed out that no form of "secret agreement" between his club and Anderlecht was ever signed. This suggestion was made at the time the Irish League club said they would not play a second leg to their game against the Belgium club. It was suggested by a number of newspapers that some sort of an agreement was entered into by the two clubs—though, funnily enough, there was never any indication as to what the agreement was actually about.

Said Mr. Williamson: "There was never any secret agreement signed. There never was an agreement signed before we went to Brussels (to the effect that, whatever the score after the first leg, no second leg would be staged). There was never any question of Anderlecht and ourselves doing anything which could be classed as secret.

"I made it plain before the Brussels match when it was evident that no steps would be taken by Anderlecht to get the ban on Brandywell removed that we were not going to play the second match on any other ground. Immediately after the game in Brussels I informed the press that we had decided to withdraw from the competition. The following day, Mr. George Cohen, one of our directors, signed in my presence an agreement which simply formalised my verbal statement. This was supposed to be the secret agreement."

A final comment from the story on March 18 came from vice-chairman, Mr. Stephen Morgan: "I only hope the magnitude of the fine imposed is not such as to seriously embarrass Derry and that the European Union will have realised that a fine that a club like Anderlecht could pay without much trouble would cripple a club like Derry.

"If there is a heavy fine and a long suspension from European competitions it will serve to rekindle all the old bitterness against the I.F.A. in Derry. Make no mistake about it, we still blame the I.F.A. for this whole sorry episode.

"If a fine running into thousands of pounds is imposed it would simply mean the end for Derry City Football Club."

Suspension

But the announcement of the fine and suspension, which was made known on March 23, brought smiles—however thin—to the lips of Derry City officials. Things were not, it seemed, as bad as they had expected. Derry would remain in the Irish League—as though it were ever doubted that they would!

The club was also ordered to pay 3% of the estimated gate if the second leg had been staged—and this meant that their financial loss amounted to about £300.

Derry officials took it all in good heart. Said secretary and director, Mr. Patrick Maxwell: "It's obvious from what we have been told that the Union dealt only with our failure to play a second leg and that's something we have always faced up to. We have always realised that we would have to pay a penalty for sticking to our guns.

"Anderlecht, I suppose, could have insisted on playing the second leg on another Northern Ireland ground."

Added Mr. Walter Wray, another director: "I think the penalty is reasonable. Our chances of playing in the European competitions next season are slim."

At the end of the month—March 30 to be exact—a new twist was added to the story. At a meeting of the I.F.A. it was put forward by Mr. William Wilton, president of the North-West Association, that they should pay the fine for Derry as it was, when all was said and done, their fault in the first place. There followed a short session of music hall banter which, folks, went something like this:

Wilton: All the trouble arose over the action of some people here deciding they would turn down Derry's ground. In view of the fact that the club may be fined I am suggesting that this fine should be paid by the I.F.A.

Mr. T. Moorehead, vice-president: I don't mind taking a note of the suggestion, but that's as far as it will go.

Wilton: I question your right to prejudge this issue. Although you sometimes get the name of 'Mister Football' there has been the odd occasion over 40 years when you have been wrong.

Moorehead: I don't think I am wrong this time.

Churned up

But there is a more serious side to the whole story—and a side which the I.F.A. must sort out soon. What will happen if, next season, Derry City win either the Irish League or Irish Cup? Are we to have the whole thing churned up again? If, as seems likely, the I.F.A. want all future European competition games played in Belfast they must say so now. They must not let the scandal drag itself up again—and not only as far as Derry is concerned. What if Bangor, Portadown, Ards or Glenavon win either of the major local prizes? Is their entry to be judged on the state of the ground? Certainly Clandeboye, Shamrock Park, Castlereagh Park and Mourneview are not as bad as Brandywell—but the I.F.A. might still consider them below whatever standards they set for the European competitions.

Back to the more local aspects of Irish League football. The Irish Cup semi-finals—played on March 26—proved to be something of a let-down. For one of the four teams — Crusaders — it turned out to be a day of disaster. They were drawn out of the hat against Linfield at Solitude and went down without even a hint of a fight, 2-0. For the Crues players the day was one of the blackest in their history. They were clueless, useless, without the will to win and completely swamped. Never have I seen the "Hatchet Men" play so badly. They offered the League Champions no opposition—passes went astray, players were never in the right place at the right time, shooting was reserved for the pre-match warm-up. All down the line the Seaview boys let their fans down—long-suffering supporters will never forgive them for putting up such a poor show. It will take a long time to win back the confidence of the regulars. After the semi-final I was surprised to see so many turn up for the Crusaders–Larne Town County Antrim Shield game at Seaview. Small wonder the Crues were given the bird by the fans.

Big two

The other semi-final, at Windsor Park, between Glentoran and Cup-holders Coleraine went to a replay before the Glens won through, 5-0. The Final, played some weeks ago (the result is not known as I write), was the first for over 20 years between Belfast's "Big Two", Linfield and Glentoran.

When, oh when, are we going to have summer football? This is the cry of a Lurgan referee who, it was reported recently, has quit the game until the authorities think about changing the season. He reckons his one-man-stand will have little effect but he would like to see it as a

move towards some sort of official protest.

Said the referee in question: "Often I have dived into my car after a game and driven 20 to 30 miles home—still soaked to the skin because few junior clubs have proper changing facilities or even hot water. I have had my share of colds during the past few years and I have come to the conclusion that it just isn't worth it. A change to summer soccer would make things much more pleasant for everybody. There would be fewer abandoned and postponed games."

For big Eamonn Gorman's benefit game in May, Portadown must have considered just about every club in the English League. Their search for a money-drawing opposition at Shamrock Park seems to be taking as long as the Derry City trouble.

Consider this: first off, West Ham were mentioned as possible opponents. Everybody said they would be terrific, everybody wanted to see them, everybody said it was clever of the Portadown officials to think of it. Then West Ham, for some reason, were dropped. Next in line came Liverpool. The headlines yelled LIVERPOOL AT SHAMROCK PARK THIS YEAR—IT'S NOT SO FAR FETCHED AS IT SOUNDS. Said Portadown manager, Charlie Tully: "Liverpool will be playing friendlies down South at the start of next season and I'm hoping to bring them to Shamrock for the benefit. What a draw they would be." And then Liverpool were dropped. Third team on the list was Swansea Town of the Third Division. The headlines told their own story: SWANSEA TOWN HERE IN MAY. The Welsh Cup finalists are coming to Ireland for a four-match tour and they will probably be playing at Shamrock. If the Swans don't come, I'll get some of my pals out and we'll give Portadown a game!

With Russia deciding not to take part in Northern Ireland's "Little World Cup" the next country on the list is Chile. It is almost certain they will play at Windsor Park on July 2. Final negotiations are, I'm told, being carried out by I.F.A. officials.

Linfield lost, it was reported at their annual meeting recently, £353 on the season's workings. This was due to ground and floodlight improvements and the fact that no big transfers were made. Expenditure was £4,600—a total of £1,800 for transfers. Income amounted to £25,403, ground rent realising £4,870 and gate receipts £15,890 — an increase. It was decided to raise the price of season tickets to the following: tip-up tickets £5 (an increase of £1 10s.); ordinary membership £4 (an increase of £1); boys and women £2 and old age pensioners remaining at £1 10s.

Impressed

It was, of course, extremely heartening to see Northern Ireland win over hot-tip Wales in the recent international at Cardiff to the tune of 4-1. I was particularly impressed with the showing of Eric Welsh, the 24-year-old Carlisle United winger. He played a great game and must, after such a grand performance, be a fairly regular in the side.

One interesting sidelight on the game was the poor attendance of only 12,890. This low gate prompted Welsh officials to think in terms of staging the next Wales–Northern Ireland game in Liverpool. They reckon the big Irish population in that city, plus the fact that it's a hotbed of soccer and easier to reach from Northern Ireland, would bump the gate into the 30,000 region. Worth a thought!

INTERNATIONAL POST-MORTEM

● *Continued from page* 17

the time of writing. A tall, long-striding player who recalls happily for me the age of scoring wingers 30 years ago. It was almost inevitable that he marked his first International appearance for West Germany with a goal. It came after less than a quarter of an hour's play at Rotterdam—and it put the Germans two goals in the lead before the Dutch had begun to click. And, sparking the confident mood of the Germans, the first goal after only six minutes' play had been scored by Uwe Seeler—the talisman of their national team.

The Dutch were soon making a match of it, however, with Swart reducing the deficit after 20 minutes' play only for the admirable Beckenbauer to make it 3-1 before the interval. Two minutes after the resumption Nuninga again brought the Netherlands within sight of an equaliser but the next, and last, goal of the match went again to Beckenbauer.

Gunter Bernard and not Tilkowski was in goal for this match; Hottges – Schulz – Weber–Lorenz (compared with Lutz–Schulz – Weber – Lorenz against England) were the defensive four; Overath and Beckenbauer (Szymaniak and Beckenbauer previously) the linkmen; and Brulls – Seeler – Held – Emmerich (Kramer–Held – Netzer – Hornig) the forward four. Add players like Schnellinger, still tied-up with Milan in Italian football, Libuda and Sieloff who played in neither of West Germany's 1966 matches to date, and the challenge of West Germany for the 1966 World Cup begins to look quietly formidable.

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English Review

by Leslie Page

Football Association abashed !

BY now even the most earnest recluse will know that England will stage the World Cup Finals in July for, in addition to the general publicity put out by the Cup Committee, the trophy itself was stolen, adding excitement and dash to the affair. The Football Association was suitably abashed by the happening and various bodies and organisations immediately sung out very loudly that they would reward the finder with substantial sums. From South America came a wail of despair plainly saying that the wicked western world had no business to display the cup in such a way as to encourage its theft.

There were recriminations and arguments galore before it was discovered in a South London garden by a mongrel dog which promptly became a national hero and a film performer into the bargain. The owner of the dog took up his rewards with great glee and the discovery saved us the disgrace of producing a replica. There remained the proceedings taken against an arrested man and, whichever way you look at it, even more publicity has been given to the competition.

When Alf Ramsey came to nominate his World Cup 40 squad, he made the announcement just prior to the Easter week-end perhaps forgetting that there would be no national newspapers published on Good Friday. Comment on his selections was, in the circumstances, somewhat limited and, in any case, the public at large were reminded that the list could be amended and added to in accordance with the dictates of form. The squad of 40 would eventually be reduced to 22, although it is fair to say that in naming 40 players, one would assume that they are the top 40 in the game in England today.

Liverpool and Chelsea made the largest contributions to the list; Liverpool with seven men named and Chelsea with six. In the case of these two clubs there was interest in the selection of such young performers as Chris Lawler, Tom Smith, John Hollins and Peter Osgood, who made his first League appearance only last October. Liverpool's Gerry Byrne finds himself on the list three years after his last national appearance and Jim Armfield, last seen in the England team two years ago, was also nominated.

Of those likely to cause a stir if they worked their way through to the final 22, there were Martin Peters of West Ham, Paul Reaney and Norman Hunter from Leeds and possibly Gordon Harris of Burnley. There is no place for Alan Peacock, awaiting a cartilage operation, Johnny Byrne once much fancied, Mick Jones who led the England line on two occasions on tour, and Martin Chivers from Southampton. If Armfield was considered a good bet then so, too, might Johnny Haynes, but it was not to be.

The Management Committee and the Football League put out a suggestion some while ago that World Cup prospects should not be played in League games after May 14, but it would appear to be impossible to enforce this embargo in the case of Chelsea, Leeds, Liverpool and Manchester United. To those who say the clubs have understood the situation for a long time and should have made the necessary arrangements, the ready answer is that none of these clubs knew the progress they would make in the European competitions and neither did they know the number of players that would be required.

Chelsea, for example, had only one player selected for England during the season (Barry Bridges) yet six are now wanted for pre-Cup training. Tommy Docherty's attitude is that he doesn't much care whether England win the World Cup or not so long as Chelsea win the F.A. Cup. This is a natural attitude for a Scot, but none too pleasant for Alf Ramsey with whom Mr. Docherty is at odds, in any case, over the matter of international training sprees which the Chelsea manager has described as "chaotic". Whatever the case, clubs with fixtures still on their hands in mid-May are likely to want to use players in vital end of the season games which could, of course, jeopardise the chances of certain men depending upon the attitude Mr. Ramsey takes of the affair.

Nominated

The final 22 will be nominated eight days before England's first World Cup game against Uruguay and, in fact, in the middle of a tour in which matches against Finland, Norway, Denmark and Poland will be played.

It is paradoxical that England should need players so badly just before the World Cup simply because this has been our most successful season ever in Continental competitions. On the other hand had it not been for these encounters many of the younger men would not have been bloodied, nor would they have gained the confidence that carries them through the blacker moments of these matches. The inclination will be for Mr. Ramsey to call heavily upon some of the younger men in the four tour matches to see if they can graft their skills on to a national combination. He might, in the end, keep very much to the men who have already served him in the past. Even if to placate public thinking, I would imagine that at least two relatively youthful performers will find themselves in the final 22 and only the training spells and the short tour can help Ramsey to decide.

The arrival of some of the new men could have panned out a little better for Mr. Ramsey. The number of players who have proved themselves in the last nine months is very much greater than those rising to the surface

An action shot from the European Cup Winners' Cup match between Celtic and Liverpool at Parkhead, with the English club's goalkeeper, Tommy Lawrence, making a save. Celtic won 1-0 but lost the return 2-0. (P.A.L.)

at this time last year. It might well be too late for England's team manager to make a change to his general format over which there was so much controversy. The games in which no regular wingers performed were the subject of major criticism, although Mr. Ramsey professed to be pleased with the general application if not the results themselves. A narrow win over Scotland, this time with one official winger in John Connelly of Manchester United, restored some semblance of calm, but there could be no vast rejoicing.

Clearly there was still a lot to do in preparation for the major soccer tournament and not a great deal of time in which to do it. After a strenuous season many of the players would be asked to call up reserves of energy at a time when they would normally be resting. Any reorganisation of our League and Cup systems, hardly yet in real focus, would come too late to help England at the time of their most important trial since the professional game commenced in these islands.

Spartan

Whilst Alf Ramsey had to wait until the clubs could release their men, Brazil went into spartan training in the mountains in the middle of April, well equipped with English type footballs and every convenience that the sporting man could desire. But it is much too early to start looking for excuses especially in view of the fact that many leading critics strongly fancy England's chances amongst their own crowds.

If it was thought that the excursions into Europe had started to overshadow domestic competitions, it must be pointed out that, in fact, both the League and the F.A. Cup still mean a great deal, acting as they do as passports to the Continent. Liverpool, for example, this year appearing in the Cup-Winners' Cup, looked certain to participate in the European Champions Cup next season. Not only would they be English League Champions, but contenders for the most important trophy that Europe can offer. After a taste of the kind of soccer that European encounters can generate, it is most unlikely that the Anfield fans would want to be without it. The newly found excitements of these contests with the added incentive of considerable financial rewards for both club and player, will not be thrown away lightly. Had the League Championship been more keenly contested and the outcome open until the last days of the campaign, it can be imagined the type of closing matches that would have been presented.

In mid-April English clubs were still interested in the semi-final ties of all three tournaments to say nothing of Manchester United and Chelsea who were still involved in the F.A. Cup. Chelsea, for the record, faced three semi-finals in eight days, hoped there would not be a replay in the F.A. Cup semi-final and yet were still intent upon closing the gap between themselves and their rivals in Division I so that they still might qualify for Europe as a nomination in the Inter Cities competition if all their other efforts came to nought.

Just a glance at Mr. Ramsey's England 40 selection indicates that Liverpool and Chelsea have been the most enterprising of teams this season with 13 men gaining nomination from the two clubs. Not so far behind them must be Manchester United who thrilled all Europe with their European Cup win over Benfica and yet could still fall sadly flat when all the omens were in their favour. United are a passionate footballing side and occasionally the magic is drained from them for no apparent reason.

Dividends

Chelsea were mainly predictable. The soccer that Tommy Docherty has been instilling into his young men these past few years is now paying off dividends. The most important thing for the Stamford Bridge gang as the season came to an end with a pile-up of fixtures, was to conserve their energies. Docherty had no qualms about throwing in reserves if he thought some of his men needed a rest, but he did not go so far as West Ham's Ron Greenwood who selected two different teams for games over the Easter period, only three men retaining their places in both matches. Chelsea had almost acquired the knack of gaining a quick lead and then hanging on to it and whilst this could go wrong as it did in the F.A. Cup against Hull City, Chelsea were becoming past masters at producing negative football if the occasion demanded.

Continue

Docherty thought it did when his programme was overloaded and if this made for dreary material to the onlooker the Chelsea manager would insist that his method was correct, taking into consideration the prizes that were at stake and the English League and Cup system that victimises the successful side both in domestic and European competitions. West Ham's team selection over Easter might not altogether gain the approval of the Football League, who insist that the strongest team must be put out on all possible occasions, but there is little doubt that the end justifies the means.

Former England captain Jimmy Armfield, a member of Alf Ramsey's World Cup forty, is pictured with the Blackpool Player of the Year trophy, which he was presented with in April. (M.P.I.)

Burnley, anxious to return across the English Channel, made steady if unspectacular progress in Division I behind Liverpool and Leeds United, still also interested in the Fairs Cup in mid-April, and Chelsea had by no means given up hoping for substantial merit bonuses. The fans roared for the blood of Billy Wright at Highbury and further down Blackburn Rovers appeared doomed. Fulham played quite magnificently to fight their way out of trouble for the third or fourth season running. Johnny Haynes was almost at his majestic best and a win at Elland Road over Leeds could hardly be accepted on its face value. But the club was not out of trouble and Northampton, Aston Villa and Sunderland sailed mighty close to the wind.

Huddersfield and Manchester City continued to dispute the Championship of Division II and Wolverhampton and Coventry would not admit defeat right up until the last. It was one of soccer's best stories that Joe Mercer had carried Manchester City so well forward since he joined the club and a change of fortune for the manager and the club itself was long overdue. Leyton Orient could do no more than accept their fate, but Bury, on the threshold of Division III, lost their manager, Bert Head, a month before the campaign closed as the one time Swindon Town chief moved on to Crystal Palace.

Certain

Millwall and Hull City looked almost certain to move up and Billy Gray became one of the few managers to say he was leaving his club at the moment of success. To shift from Division IV to Division II in two seasons illustrated Gray's worth at the Den, which at one time was tinged with slight surprise. Hull City, big spenders that they were, appear to have purchased fame and fortune as they said they would under the steady guidance of Cliff Britton. Queen's Park Rangers continued to press hard until the close, but looked as if they would have to wait another term.

Right until curtain time the pitched battles at the bottom of Division III and the top of Division IV continued.

BACK AFTER TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

Ferenc Sipos pictured in training (right); he was recently suspended from official duty by the Hungarian F.A. but it was only a temporary measure. (Central.)

WORLD DIARY by ROGER MACDONALD

ARGENTINA will be one of Brazil's strongest opponents in the World Cup next July — if their team arrives for the finals. For their preparations were left in such chaos last month, that it seemed possible that they might even have to withdraw.

Late in April the Argentinian F.A. accepted the resignation of team manager Osvaldo Zubeldia, and cancelled their short European tour to Belgium, France and the Netherlands.

Zubeldia resigned, ostensibly, because the F.A. refused to put his assistant, Antonio Faldutti, on an equal footing, and encouraged him to resign as well. But the real trouble lay in the complete failure of his grandiose plan to field an international team in the Argentinian League, taking the cream of the players from Boca Juniors, River Plate, and Independiente.

This, one feels, was almost bound to fail — but its failure so weakened Zubeldia's authority that even quite ordinary preparations were obstructed also. The big clubs refused to release players wanted for the enlarged South American Club Cup, and Zubeldia's "World" squad consisted almost entirely of reserves.

When he finally managed to bring his full team together for training, 12 of them began a "go-slow", and put in a demand for special bonuses to compensate for lost club earnings.

Little wonder Zubeldia is disillusioned, after promising to bring youth and energy to the Argentinian team selection for the first time in many years. His work with Atlanta, where he first made an impact as assistant to Mogilewski four years ago, and later with Estudiantes, made him a natural successor to the overworked Minella.

But Zubeldia was perhaps too unorthodox, too much a dictator to satisfy either players or public. He insisted on choosing his own staff, many of whom have never been seen, and delegating more and more responsibility to the inexperienced Faldutti.

His World Cup 40 included many unexpected names — such as Malbernat and Conigliaro, from his old club, Estudiantes; Pianetti, the latest prodigy at Boca Juniors; and Perfumo (Racing), Roldan (Chacarita Juniors) and Rosi (Gimnasia), all young reserve players, inexperienced and untried.

There were signs at the beginning of the year that Zubeldia felt he was fighting for a lost cause. He chose two representative sides from players available during the close season, arranged for the "A" side to visit Mexico, and for the "B" side to play in a tournament at Buenos Aires. But he put the "B" selection in the hands of Coniglario, who was on the injured list, while he watched from the terraces ... and sent the "A" selection off to Mexico on their own.

BACK AGAIN

MUCH ado about nothing describes the (temporary) suspension of Ferenc Sipos from Hungary's World Cup squad for "indiscipline". Sipos, who describes himself as "strong-willed" — others have preferred to call him "pig-headed" — apparently did not like the idea of a 9 p.m. curfew lasting for the three months *in retiro.*

He decided on an emphatic protest, deliberately staying out late three nights in succession — though not, as has been suggested, for a session of wine, women and song.

Hungary's team manager Lajos Baroti had to take action, so he sent Sipos home in disgrace. But, 29 days later, Honved's star player reappeared for training, and neither Sipos nor Baroti would make any comment.

It seems Hungary cannot do without their most experienced defender (Sipos has 75 caps). But their disciplinary measure seems to have misfired. Not only is Sipos back, but the curfew has been raised, to 10.30.

SOME TRUTH

FOR once rumour was partly based on fact, when the two Madrid clubs, Real and Atletico, were reported last month to be interested in signing Tommy Docherty as manager.

Despite their narrow victory in the championship, Atletico manager Balmanya is almost certain to rejoin Di Stefano at Espanol, where he will share responsibility for team selection and training. His contract expires at the end of May, and I understand that Espanol have already offered him a signing-on fee which Atletico, still heavily in debt, cannot possibly match.

The new Spanish champions have approached Helenio Herrera, but without any real hope of success. According to one Madrid newspaper, their next offer is likely to go to a prominent Scottish manager in England.

Real Madrid, in the European Cup Final again, probably won't change now....

RETURN OF PELE

PELE remains everything to Santos, who recalled him from his European honeymoon when they began badly in the important Rio-Sao Paulo mini-League tournament.

But he returned too late to give Santos the title after two early defeats, and in any case could not play in the vital game against Corinthians.

Santos's impotent attack failed to score, and, almost inevitably, they finished a goalless draw with only nine players on the field. Coutinho, still looking overweight, was sent off for arguing with the referee, along with Corinthians full-back Edson. Mengalvio sauntered up to sort things out, and was promptly sent off as well, leaving Santos with nine men against ten.

The result came through to Maraca at 7.45 p.m., just as Vasco da Gama, who now needed only a point against Botafogo to win the tournament, were walking through the tunnel.

Their coach, Zeze Moreira, said afterwards that this was fatal to their game, for they looked tense and cautious against Botafogo, and never looked likely to gain a draw.

Parada and Gerson were allowed to roam at will in midfield, and they set up two chances for Jairzinho. With Fontana absent and Brito unwilling to tackle, Vasco's defence was never happy. A third goal by Parada, a phenomenal kicker of the dead ball, put the result beyond doubt. Botafogo

WORLD DIARY . . . WORLD DIARY . . . WORLD DIARY . . .

won a free-kick, Vasco's defenders left a tiny gap, and the ball was stretching the netting.

PROGRESS

I SANK cautiously into a pre-Garibaldi settee belonging to Signor Achille Lauro, president of Naples F.C., former mayor of Naples, and owner of the largest fishing fleet in the Adriatic.

"Yes, I'm delighted with our progress," said Signor Lauro, pointing to an Italian League table which showed Napoli breathlessly pursuing the almost literally invincible Internazionale.

"I feel sure we can be in at the finish — Inter have to play here yet, and five points is not such a large gap.

"Napoli are at last financially stable — we took £250,000 from season ticket-holders in August and September, and still as much as £40,000 from top League games against Juventus and AC Milan."

So Napoli have repaid your loan of £235,000 to buy Altafini and Sivori?

"Well, actually, no. You see, we will need some more players if we are to do well in European football, so I told them to keep it."

Aren't you worried about your money? — it's said the club owe you nearly a million.

"Do they? Well, I'm not concerned about the figures. It's my hobby, you see. In Italy we go in for football: in England, I believe, you prefer model railways or stamp collecting."

NOT SHARED

I TALKED to Enrique Sivori after one of Napoli's home matches, in which he had been serenaded by his personal guitarist from the touchline.

But he did not share his president's confidence. "Agreed that Jose (Altafini) and I are a great combination, and that it serves Milano and Juve right for selling us. But I don't think we can beat Inter. They ought to be placed above competitions, and the title given to the club which comes second . . . Napoli."

I wonder . . . for Napoli lost a key game at Lanerossi Vicenza, and dropped almost immediately to third place. The player who did all the damage was Luis Vinicius de Menendez, called Vicinio, whom Naples allowed to leave three seasons ago, when he was 30.

But the Lion of Naples, as the local *tifosi* called him, has scored 17 goals this season, only one fewer than Mazzola, and, at 33, may even be called up for the national side. No wonder, when he put Lanerossi ahead with a superb goal, even Achille Lauro lost his present complacency. Money, it seems, is no substitute for judgement, even in the cloud-cuckoo land of *calcio*.

CONFOUNDED

ONCE again the critics, and Bela Guttmann, are confounded. The favourites for the European Cup, Inter-Milan and Manchester United, both vanished in a day. Instead, the Final in Brussels on May 11 will be between a revitalised Real Madrid and the unglamorous Partizan Belgrade.

For Manchester United, it was a sad defeat by the smallest possible margin. But it reaffirmed Eric Batty's judgement of their 5-1 defeat of Benfica in *Soccer Star*: it was a good victory made so much easier by soft goals. British football still lacks that extra flair and imagination required to break down a blanket defence at the highest level.

For Internazionale, it was an astonishing failure — quite the most unexpected result of the season. A packed house at San Siro, only a single goal deficit — surely an easy passage for the European Cup holders.

But the tension somehow spoiled Inter's relaxed style, and brought the best out of a rapidly improving Real side. And they scored the first goal, to take a crucial 2-0 lead, when in the 20th minute Gento passed perfectly to Amancio, whose ground shot was too accurate and too powerful even for Sarti. Facchetti equalised for Inter in the 78th minute, but their period of invincibility was over.

But at least Liverpool are poised to win the European Cup-Winners' Cup Final against Borussia Dortmund, even though West Germany have released Tilkowski, Libuda and Emmerich from their Ireland tour early in May. Coach Willy Multhaup said after watching Celtic's brave fight at Anfield: "We will have to improve considerably to have any chance at all."

Black Wednesday also produced some upsets among the international teams. Russia played almost their full team in a friendly against Switzerland at Basle, and were 2-0 up after nine minutes through Tschislenko and Ponedelnik. But Switzerland rallied in the second half, equalising through Hosp (60 min.) and Groberty (72).

Perhaps the absence of Russia's captain, Valentin Ivanov, may be offered in explanation. He has an ankle injury which will keep him out for a month.

France had an equally unpleasant surprise at Paris, where they were beaten 3-0 by Belgium. They were outplayed from start to finish, and the score could have been much greater, for Belgium twice hit the post and missed two open goals during the second half.

EUROPEAN CUP AND THE CUP WINNERS CUP FINAL REPORTS IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE OF WORLD SOCCER

Jose Altafini the man who forms a great combination with Sivori — according to the latter whose views are reported on this page by Roger Macdonald in his World Diary. (O.2.)

TOP SIXES around the globe

BULGARIA

	P.	Pts.
Levski	17	25
Sparta Sofia	18	22
CSKA	16	22
Slavia	17	21
Lok. Sofia	18	19
Beroe	18	18

ITALY

	P.	Pts.
Inter	28	44
Bologna	28	38
Napoli	28	37
Juventus	28	35
Milan AC	28	33
Fiorentina	28	32

FRANCE

	P.	Pts.
Nantes	30	49
Valenciennes	29	41
Bordeaux	30	40
St. Etienne	30	38
Toulouse	29	32
Sedan	30	30

RUSSIA

	P.	Pts.
Dynamo Kiev	1	2
ZS Rostov	1	2
Tiflis	1	2
Odessa	1	2
Spartak Moscow	1	2
Baku	1	1

WEST GERMANY

	P.	Pts.
Borussia Dortmund	28	43
Bayern Munchen	28	41
TSV Munchen	27	39
FC Koln	28	37
Werder Bremen	28	35
FC Nurnberg	28	33

YUGOSLAVIA

	P.	Pts.
Vojvodina	21	32
Partizan	21	25
Dynamo	21	23
Vardar	21	23
Velez	21	22
Sarajevo	21	22

RUMANIA

	P.	Pts.
Petrolul	16	25
Rapid	16	23
Jassy	16	19
Dynamo Bucharest	16	17
Etoile	16	16
Pitesti	16	16

BELGIUM

	P.	Pts.
Anderlecht	26	43
Standard	27	35
St. Trond	26	35
Beerschot	28	35
Malinos	28	32
FC Bruges	27	30

SWITZERLAND

	P.	Pts.
Zurich	18	30
Servette	17	25
Lausanne	18	22
Grenchen	18	20
Young Boys	18	19
Basel	17	19

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P.	Pts.
Slavia	17	25
Sparta	17	23
Inter	17	20
Tyrnau	17	19
Dukla	17	19
VSS Kasch	17	18

HUNGARY

	P.	Pts.
Honved	5	9
FTC	5	8
Vasas	5	8
Ujpest	5	6
Tatabanya	5	6
Gyor	5	6

ENGLAND

	P.	Pts.
Liverpool	39	58
Burnley	38	49
Leeds	37	48
Chelsea	36	46
Manchester Utd.	35	42
WBA	37	41

SCOTLAND

	P.	Pts.
Celtic	31	51
Rangers	31	49
Kilmarnock	32	42
Dundee Utd.	31	41
Dunfermline	30	40
Hearts	32	36

AUSTRIA

	P.	Pts.
Admira Energie	19	30
Rapid	19	29
Austria Wiener	19	29
Wr. Sportklub	19	24
Vienna	19	22
Wacker Innsbruck	19	21

POLAND

	P.	Pts.
Gornik	16	26
Szombierki	16	20
Wisla	16	19
Zaglebie	16	18
Zawisza	16	17
Stal	16	17

ARGENTINA

	P.	Pts.
Independiente	6	10
Boca Juniors	6	10
River Plate	6	9
Huracan	6	9
Estudiantes	6	7
Banfield	6	7

EIRE

	P.	Pts.
Waterford	21	32
Shamrock R.	21	29
Bohemians	21	25
Limerick	21	22
Shelbourne	21	21
Drumcondra	21	20

ALGERIA

	P.	Pts.
Belcour	22	56
SCM Oran	22	52
ASM Oran	22	50
FC Oran	22	49
Guelena	22	49
Kouba	22	49

SPAIN

	P.	Pts.
Atletico	30	44
Real Madrid	30	43
Barcelona	30	38
Saragossa	30	36
Bilbao	30	34
Elche	30	31

PORTUGAL

	P.	Pts.
Sporting	24	38
Benfica	24	37
Porto	24	32
Guimaraes	24	29
Setubal	24	27
Belenenses	24	25

BRAZIL

	P.	Pts.
Botafogo	9	11
Vasco	9	11
Santos	9	11
Corinthians	9	11
Sao Paulo	9	10
Palmeiras	9	9

EAST GERMANY

	P.	Pts.
Jena	21	28
Vorwaerts	21	27
Karlmarx Stadt	21	25
Dynamo Berlin	21	23
Loc. Leipzig	21	23
Dresden	21	22

HOLLAND

	P.	Pts.
Ajax	22	39
Feyenoord	22	35
ADO	22	28
DWS	22	28
Groningen	22	25
Sparta	22	23

NORWAY

	P.	Pts.
Valerengen	18	27
Lyn	18	26
Sarpsborg	18	23
Steinkjer	18	21
Fredrikstad	18	20
Skeid	18	17

EUROPEAN CUP FINAL DATES

The Final of the European Cup-Winners' Cup will be played on Thursday, May 5, at Hampden Park, Glasgow, kick-off 7.30 p.m., between Liverpool and Borussia Dortmund. The Final of the European Champions' Cup will take place at the Heysel Stadium in Brussels on Wednesday, May 11, at 7.30 p.m., between Real Madrid and Partizan Belgrade.

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Partizan Belgrade team, back row left to right: Jusufi, Bajic, Curkovic, Galic, Hasanagic. Front: Mihailovic, Vasovic, Rasovic, Becejac, Kovacevic, Pirmajer. (O.)

FINAL OUTSIDERS!

Club Spotlight on PARTIZAN BELGRADE

PARTIZAN Belgrade was the first Yugoslavian team to be founded after the war. That was on October 4, 1945, a short time after the end of hostilities. The Yugoslavian Revolution was to be presented in sport, too, and Partizan was to represent it.

During the first days of peace, players from all parts of Yugoslavia came to the capital to join the team. Already to the first generation belonged some of the most well-known Yugoslavian players: Cajkovski, Bobek and Mihailovic. Partizan have taken part in all the championships since the war. Up till now they have been champions five times and four times Cup winners. To the end of last year the number of matches amounted to 388, of which 224 were won, 77 drawn and 87 lost. The attack scored 856 goals, the defence conceded 452. From the day of the foundation of the club to December 31, 1956, 40 players appeared in the national team; these 40 wore the blue Yugoslavian national shirt 625 times and during the same period 18 Partizan players scored 142 goals. Centre-forward Milan Galic with 38 goals was top.

Many famous Yugoslavian players whose names mean much to European and world football passed through the team. Just to recall a few of them: Cajkovski, Bobek, Zebec, Milutinovic, Soskic, Jusufi, Vasovic, Galic and Miladinovic.

The present Partizan team found its origin in the junior team under the care of Florian Matekalo and this team is among the best since the war.

Partizan are one of the few well-known teams who do not follow a certain system. Among them are the most qualified of Yugoslavian players. That is proved by the fact that they were four times Yugoslavian champions during the last five years. Mostly they play attacking football with five attackers supported by both halfs Becejac and Vasovic.

The great weakness of Partizan is their inability to defend. The team plays better at home than abroad. Out of four European Cup games, Partizan won all at home with a goal difference of 12-0.

All players of the club have already played once for a national selection. Out of the normal team nine players took part in games with the national "A" team. In first place is right-back Jusufi, with 52 caps. Second place goes to goalkeeper Soskic with 49 games. For years he has been the best Yugoslavian goalkeeper as well as one of the best in the world. He played during the second half for the F.I.F.A. selection against England in 1963.

At present, though, the best half is Velibor Vasovic. He recently won the 1966 "Footballer of the Year" title. About his performances during the match against Sparta Prague in Belgrade, the Vice-President of the UEFA, Sandor Barch, noted: "I have not seen such a good player for ten years." His place is usually in the middle of the field and he is also a very good scorer. Also in good form are Becejac and the stopper Rasovic.

The most important man in the attack is inside-right Kovacevic. He holds midfield control and combines between defence and attack. In top form are several new Yugoslavian football hopes: outside-right Mane Bajic and centre-forward Mustafa Hasanagic. The inside-left, Miladinovic, a player with much international experience, is an all-rounder who has appeared in all positions except goalkeeper.

★ **BRANKO PEROVANOVIC**

Partizan in attack from left Kovacevic (stripes), Perovic, Galic and Mihailovic. (O.)

CLASSIFIED RESULTS

● From last month

DECEMBER 29

WORLD CUP PLAY-OFF

Bulgaria (2) **2** (Asparoukhov 2) 11,659
Belgium (0) **1** (Gaganelov o.g.)

Bulgaria: Naidenov; Chalamanov, Gaganelov; Largov, Voutsov, Jetchev; Jekov, Abadjev, Asparoukhov, Yakimov, Kolev.

Belgium: Nicolay; Heylens, Bare; Michiels, Verbiest, Plaskie; Thio, Jurion, Stockman, Van Himst, Puis.

JANUARY 5

England (0) **1** (Moore) 47,839
Poland (1) **1** (Sadek)

England: Banks; Cohen, Wilson; Stiles, Charlton (J.), Moore; Ball, Hunt, Baker, Eastham, Harris.

Poland: Szeja; Gmoch, Oslizlo, Rewilak; Brejla, Suskl; Galeczka, Schmidt, Sadek, Willin (Banas), Kowalik.

FEBRUARY 23

England (1) **1** (Stiles) 75,000
West Germany (0) **0**

England: Banks; Cohen, Newton (Wilson); Moore, Charlton (J.), Hunter; Ball, Hunt, Stiles, Hurst, Charlton (R.).

West Germany: Tilkowski; Lutz, Lorenz; Schulz, Weber, Szymaniak; Kramer, Beckenbauer, Held, Netzer, Hornig (Heiss).

Chile (0) **0** 50,000
Russia (1) **2** (Afonine pen., Chislenko)

Chile: Godoy; Valentini, Gonzalez; Figueroa, Contreras, Hodge; Yavar, Araya, Landa, Valdes, Leonel Sanchez.

Russia: Kavazashvili; Ponomarev, Getmanov; Afonine, Chesternev, Voronin; Metreveli, Sabo, Banischevski, Chislenko, Khusainov.

MARCH 19

France (0) **0** 31,795
Italy (0) **0**

France: Aubour; Bosquier, Artelesa, Budzinski, Chorda; Herbin, Peri; Baraffe, Gondet, Simon, Hausser.

Italy: Albertosi; Burgnich, Salvadore, Facchetti; Rosato, Pirovano (Lodetti); Domenghini (Meroni), Rivera, Mazzola, Riva, Corso.

MARCH 23

Holland (1) **2** (Swart, Nuninga) 65,000
West Germany (3) **4** (Beckenbauer 2, Seeler, Emmerich)

Holland: Pieters-Graafland; Pijs, Israel, Schrijvers, Veldhoen; Fransen, Muller; Swart, Nuninga, Kuylen, Moulijn.

West Germany: Bernard; Hottges, Schulz, Weber, Lorenz; Beckenbauer, Overath; Brulls, Seeler, Held, Emmerich.

MARCH 30

Wales (0) **1** (Davies W.) 12,860
Ireland (2) **4** (Irvine, Wilson, Welsh, Harvey)

Wales: Sprake; Rodrigues, Williams; Hennessey, England, Hole; Rees, Vernon, Davies (W.), Moore, Reece.

Ireland: Jennings; Magill, Elder; Harvey, Neill, Nicholson; Welsh, Wilson, Irvine, Dougan, McLaughlin.

● More next month

AFRICA NEWS —*Continued from page 25*

Hellenic have made a good start to the season again but there is a big question mark against their being able to maintain the pace. Their only significant transfer was the Australian international forward, Jimmy Pearson from the Sydney club, Pan-Hellenic. The fee was £1,200.

Cape Town City have been scraping their feet in bolstering their staff and have limited their operations to signing Neville Walters from Addington. Nevertheless, they already have the material to enjoy a fairly successful season, if only their forwards sort out their directions and learn the path to goal.

The annual "Champions of Champions" series began the new season. The League Champions and Castle Cup holders, Highlands Park, faced Durban City, who won the end-of-season Floodlight Bowl. The first of the two legs was played in Durban. In a game marred by defensive blunders, City just emerged as 4-3 winners.

The second leg in Johannesburg was an entirely different affair. City again scored first but Highlands changed into overdrive and brushed the suspect City defence aside and strode to a convincing 7-2 victory that instantly stamped them as the season's pace-setters. Their early league form has confirmed this. They have beaten Durban United 7-1, Westview Appollon 5-1, Bloemfontein City 10-1 and Southern Suburbs 5-0. Unless one of the other clubs can produce something exceptional in the coming weeks, Highlands are going to secure their third championship on the trot by mid-season.

News You May Have Missed

SHEFFIELD Wednesday and Everton will meet in the F.A. Cup Final at Wembley on May 14. Wednesday's last appearance in the Final was in 1935 when they beat West Bromwich Albion 4-2 and Everton was last there in 1933 when they defeated Manchester City 3-0. Everton have not conceded a goal in the competition and Sheffield Wednesday have reached Wembley without playing one home tie.

* * *

Thirty-six countries will have television coverage of the World Cup Finals this year—at least. Agreements have been signed with the following countries covered by Eurovision: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, West Germany, Greece, Iceland, Eire, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom, Vatican State and Yugoslavia. In addition Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Rumania, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Peru will have coverage.

* * *

The names of the World Cup 40 players for each finalist country must be communicated to F.I.F.A. by Saturday, May 28. The final list of 22 must be declared from this 40 by July 2.

Applications from West Germany and Spain have been received in support of claims to stage the 1974 World Cup Finals.

* * *

Sir Stanley Rous, President of F.I.F.A., has been invited to represent the world governing body at this year's UEFA Youth Tournament to be held in Yugoslavia from May 21–29.

* * *

Seven days after it was stolen from a Sports Stamp Exhibition in London, the Jules Rimet Trophy was recovered safely from a garden in the South London area.

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Denis Law (8) tries at the English goal with defenders George Cohen, Gordon Banks, Bobby Moore and Keith Newton prepared on the line. England won 4–3 to boost hopes of doing well in the World Cup finals this year. Full report next month. (M.P.I.)

The boot room at Ayresome Park, Middlesbrough. Chile, Italy, USSR and North Korea will play their World Cup matches there and doubtless utilise some of the facilities shown here. 'Boro full-back Keith Lakey brushes his own boots up in this picture. (A.P.)

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